14.43 hrs

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1991-92–*CONTD.*

Minister of Agriculture, Ministry of Food and Ministry of Rural Development –*CONTD.*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we take up the discussion on the Demands of the Ministries of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. Shri Rameshwar Patidar was on his legs. You have already taken twenty minutes, so, you will have to complete within one or two minutes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while speaking last time I tried to explain as to how the farmers are getting low prices of foodgrains and how the prices of the commodities are going up in the market. In this way he suffers double loss if he produces foodgrains in higher quantities, he is given low prices and if he produces in lesser quantity the country has to suffer a lot. Being patiot, he does not mind as to what does he get but produces as much as he can. I would like to submit that how the farmers continue to suffer loss. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the price-index of the manufactured items which was only 9 percent more in comparison to the agriculture produce in 1971-72 became 42 percent more in the year 1980-81. Thus, in this period of 9 years only the prices of the manufactured items increased by 13 percent more as against prices of the agriculture produce. Even the comparison of each agriculture price with the level of general is too disappointing. In 1976-77 the indices of all the commodities were 173 and the price indeces of foodgrains were 174...

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not give quotation.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Between the period of 1975-76 and 80-81 the price index of the general commodities increased by 48 percent whereas in the same period the increased in the price of the foodgrains was 24.7 percent only.

MR.SPEAKER: According to rule either the Government publications or the book written by a great author can be quoted only. This House may be misled by the quotation from some other books.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Sir, I want to point out only this that how the prices of foodgrains registering increase in markets at low pace in comparison with prices of factory-made products. What I want to say is that the prices of foodgrains as well as other agriculture produce should keep increasing with the pace the prices of general commodities increase in the market. This alone can benefit the farmers. What has happened so far is that the share of foodgrains crops in 50-51 which was 76 per cent has come down to 72 per cent in 1985-86. Production of foodgrains kept going down. With the loss to farmers the country also suffered loss.

The other point I would like to raise is that the subsidy on fertilizers has been reduced. It has been stated here that the subsidy on fertilizers has been grated every year to the farmers to the tune of Rs. 3600 crore. Then a 40 percent reduction was effected in order to charge a sum of Rs. 1800 crore more from farmers but after a strong protest against this move the Government lowered down the reduction to 30 percent from which a sum of Rs. 450 crore is expected to be fetched. Now it is

[Sh. Rameshwar Patidar]

being said that the Government would accrue less income despite the income of Rs. 450 crore but that is not true. On the one hand, it is said that there would be no reduction in subsidy for small and marginal farmers and the other hand, the prices of fertilizers are being increased and only a paltry sum of Rs. 125 crore is being given to farmers in the form of subsidy.

By way of subsidy a sum of Rs. 13 crore is being given to Madhya Pradesh where the number of small and marginal farmers is 43 lakh. If it is seen from the point of view of the share each farmer is going to get, it comes to Rs.30 to 33. Each farmer purchases nearly 30 to 35 bags of fertilizer in year. In this way a marginal farmer gets the benefit of rupee one per bag. Even then the government is saying that full exemption is being given to them which is quite misleading. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, therefore, demand that this dual price policy be done away with, that the discrimination between big and small farmers be done away with and all the farmers should get equal subsidy on fertilizers.

Now I would make my submission just in one minute that a great deal about fodder machines had appeared in newspapers in 1987. I do not want to remind the hon. Minister of Agriculture the bitter memories of yore but simply want to know from him, whether those imported fodder machines are being utilized today or not. Apart from that twelve thousand farmers were to be trained for handling those machines. I would like to know the number of farmers who have been trained. Are those machines still in the use of fodder-production I hope the hon. Minister of agriculture will elaborate all these points when he would reply.

[English]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. It is a very important subject that we are discussing at this moment. We are looking forward to the reply of the Minister of Agriculture on the various issues and points that have been raised by the hon.Members.

It is needless to say that agriculture is the mainstream of our economy. There is a symbiotic relation between industry and agriculture. In our view it is not an antagonistic relationship. The welfare of one reinforces the welfare of the other. When there is drought, industry also suffers; when there is good crop, industry also flourishes. So, the importance of agriculture in the whole economy has to be understood in a larger context. It is also the area which still gives the largest employment. If employment is a problem in the country, then agriculture is a sector where there is still largest potential for employment. But this I mean not only those who own land but also labour and people of other activities that are associated with agriculture, if we take in the totality.

Agriculture has been the foundation for our self-reliance. There was a time when we used to import wheat. That was a serious challenge to our economic independence and it goes to the credit of the farmers of the country that in providing economic independence to the country they have contributed their mite. Still 70 per cent of India does live in the rural side and agriculture is the main activity there. So, this being the importance, before going into the details what is necessary is to look and have a holistic view about agriculture, a total perspective of it. There is, therefore, a need for national agricultural participation.

In 1956 we passed the Industrial Policy Resolution. It became the guideline of various Governments that came later. It is surprising that India being predominently an agricultural country, we have not yet evolved a national agricultural policy. And it was our Party that put it first in the manifesto that there must be a National Agriculture Policy. Not only this when the National Front Government came, we involved people who were associated with farmers' movement. Shri Sharad Joshi was heading the Standing Advisory Committee and we involved the other leaders of the farmers' movement. Almost the work was over and we were to come forward with the National Policy on Agriculture. I think that work should be carried forward and I would look forward to an assurance from the Agriculture Minister that the Government would be coming forward with a national Policy on Agriculture so that the future of the farmers, their fortune, is not tied up with the changes of the Government, but it is assured with particular definite direction from the Government, whichever Government it may be, and that is not only to benefit the farmer, but to benefit the whole economy. Stability will be coming to the whole economy if we can have a stable perspective and policy on agriculture.

The National Front Government also had declared that in the coming decade let us dedicate to the farmer and declared the decade to be Kisan Dashak. We are going to the 21st century, let us not forget the farmers, let us dedicate the last decade of this country to the farmers so that when we go to the 21st century, the farmer comes along with all the development and progress that the next century may bring.

Sir, the problem that is facing agriculture, I think, in the macro level must be attended to. There has been a stagnation of investment in private sector as well as public sector. If we take into account the inflation and all that, and value how much investment is needed, at least there is a plateau level and this is the most serious thing that is affecting agriculture. In this respect the capacity of the farmers to invest, the terms of trade for this has been continuously deteriorating. That means from what the farmer has to sell, the prices of those products, to what the farmer has to buy, the relative prices have so moved during the past years that it has been adverse to the farmer, thereby implying that there is resource transfer from that sector, it is through the mechanism of relative prices that resource transfer takes place, there is a resource transfer from this sector and the capacity of the sector of the sector to reinvest and out capital formation both are severely jeopardised by this mechanism of adverse terms of trade.

Also, in the various factors of pricing that we take, natural calamities, drought and floods which eat away the capital of the farmer, hardly goes into the calculation: the whole family works as labour on the farm, and all these are factors which are not quite properly taken, maybe some factor to some degree may be taken into account, but certainly not fully. We have decided one thing when the National Front Government was there that for support price the managerial skill of the farmer will be taken care of and the minimum wage that is declared by the Government will form the basis of calculation or wherever they are—in Punjab it is paid higher and that will be the basis for calculation and also if after declaration of the Government there are some inputs, prices go up and there will be inflation that will be finally counted. I would look forward to an assurance from the hon. Minister that those inputs have not been changed and they are going to be implemented to ensure justice to them. What is reflected in the *per capita* contribution on agriculture? It is something which is very serious and because of the stagnation in investment, th capacity to invest is going down. The share in GDP on agriculture has come down. It was 60 per cent, now it is around 30 per cent. This is not alarming. When a country industrialises itself, its contribution in GDP comes down. Our con-

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

cern is, still the dependence of the population on agriculture more or less remains the same. That has not come down whereas in other countries where there is industrialisation that comes down. The *per capita* contribution in GDP of the farm section has come down . It is something very serious when we look at all the problems of agricultural sector and its economics. Then, the other problem is, the green revolution has been uneven. It has been uneven regionwise; its benefit has not spread to all the regions and also not to every foodgrain. It has been foodgrains specific; certain foodgrains have been benefited, but there are many others which have not been benefited-jowar, bajra and so on which are the poor man's food items. The green revolution has bypassed the poorer sections and those who have not got irrigation facilities. Therefore, it is these various things which call for a national policy on agriculture, a holistic view and a response to this. There are also various restrictions on value additions. A farmer produces paddy, but he cannot convert fully into rice. Then, though there is a declaration that there is freedom of movement, in fact in practice we know that there are a lot of restrictions by this method or that method. Some permission is required and a lot of restrictions are imposed indirectly by the various State Governments.

Then, there is the problem of distress sale. Here, the Government can think of godowns where against the foodgrains the farmers may deposit, certain advances can be given and so the distress sale is not resorted to and the farmers get the proper price. That is particularly beneficial for the small farmer who does not have the capacity to retain this foodgrains when the prices are not much. Here, the inefficiency of the Food Corporation of India gets loaded on the whole system. That also has to be a major part of the facus invariably, for foodgrains and its distribution. I have already mentioned that in this policy, there is a need for involvement of those people who are actually in the farmers' movement and an emphasis has to be there in evolving a mechanism where the farmers could be involved in policy decisions. At the same time, when we speak of all these things, we cannot forget land reforms. We have seen that by mere change of the economic relationship in the rural side, greater productivity was unleashed when zamindari system was abolished and ownership was given to those who till the land. The system of *pattaider* is still prevailing and there are still *benami* land holdings. (*Interruptions*) In land reforms, on-the-spot enquiry is necessary as to who is in possession of foodgrains or as in whose *kalihan* the thrashing takes place. Where does it go? This cannot be concealed. The land is an open thing under the Sun and you cannot put it in a locker or put it somewhere. Where does it go? Without the labour, it cannot be harvested and it cannot be thrashed. It is very easy to detect it. There can be land tribunals wherein there should be people from poorer sections and that is where comes the sharing of power; precisely that what we attempted. In various fields, there is a need for share in decision-making and in power structure for those people who are really aggrieved.

14.00 hrs

It is there we can put in those people. Then, you can implement land reforms effectively through these land tribunals. All this investigation can take place and land reforms could take place.

The other thing is about market. Apart from internal market, there also comes the problem of access to external market and the benefits that accrue to the farmers. Certainly what is essential for the country, for the poorer people and for their consumption, that should be assured first. On that, there should be no compromise. But still mechanism has to be evolved as to how we can evolve a rational policy of import or export of agricultural goods. I would suggest that there should be a trigger mechanism of prices. If the domestic prices go above a certain mark, we can stop the export because the commodity is domestically needed and further export will again push up the price. If it goes below a certain price level, then export should be allowed. So, the farmers can get the benefit of wider market. So, within a range, we can have this trigger mechanism rather than for months and months together the Government processing the case whether cotton will be exported or not exported, whether onion will be exported or not exported, whether potato will be exported or not exported or certain other commodity will be exported or not exported. We can have a range where trigger mechanism can be evolved. That will facilitate the access to market.

Then there is also the question of treating agriculture as an industry. I think, the benefit that accrues to industry should acrue to agriculture and I look forward an assurance from the hon. Minister on this count. One thing, I differ very strongly with the statement of the Agriculture Minister when he says that the loans that were given to the farmers have been harmful. Here I want to strongly protest and say that he is sadly mistaken in his view, which is the Government view when he says, it is also the Government view.

In fact, it is the deteriorating terms of trade by which resources outflow has taken place, pauperisation has taken place. Per capita GDP contribution has fallen. Due to this kind of economy, a relief was sought to be given as loan. It is not that you are just distributing charity. There has bee n inherent in injustice in the whole system. So, that was a mode of giving respite. Having done that, they get the terms of trade improved. We tried to do that. We cannot go on repeating, giving loans. But once repenting for the sin, give time for correction. That was the idea I think, behind our taking the loan decision. I think, the Government will implement it. I look forward to this. At least about what we read in the newspaper, if the hon. Minister corrects it here on the floor of the House, I think, it is better.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu): The decision of waiving loan taken by him was unfortunate. Its benefit did not reach most of the farmers.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Let him make a beginning. Let them do better work than what we did but let there be some work for farmers...(Inter*ruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Coming to fertilizer and fertilizer subsidy, what is the nature of this subsidy? Fertilizer industry has been guaranteed, after deduction of tax, 12 percent profit. That will be ensured. That is the only industry where the Government has given such an assurance. Because of various capital investment allowance and all that, it comes to almost 24 percent. Not even to the public sector, the Government has given any such assurance. It is one industry in the whole of the country where the Government guarantees 12 percent profit. What has it resulted in ? It has resulted in what is termed as "gold plating" of the machines that we bought, a tendency to inflate the prices of the machines, a mechanism by which foreign exchange outgo is there much more than what is necessary and where that money lands up is a matter which is not much of disputation. On this inflated price, the taxpayer pays to the Government an assured profit. Rs. 1,000 crores project is inflated by

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

Rs. 100 crores. That means, Rs. 24 crores gift basket is given. In four years, that money is back and then a permanent gift packet is given. It has also led to inefficiency because once your profit is assured, there is no compulsion for you to prove your efficiency. It is also well-known that the technical choices that have been imposed on the fertiliser industry have been such which have not been efficient. Certain technologies have been imposed where consumption of electricity is much.

So, what are we subsidising? We are subsidising to these inefficiencies, to these decisions and to these wrong policies. The inefficiency of one sector is sought to be transferred to the farm sector, which has hardly anything to do with that inefficiency. If fertiliser was priced at unit efficiency, farmers should be called to pay the price.

Gas prices are laid down. As regards the utilisation of the gas along the pipeline, it is hardly utilised and for very long distances, gases have been pumped and that is loaded on the fertiliser and the farmer has to pay for it. If there is a criterion of fertiliser prices, it should be comparative to what is being internationally efficiently used of electricity, raw material and other things which go in far producing one tonne of fertiliser. We have to see whether it is at that level or not. If it is not, I ask why it is being loaded on the farmer. It is not the question of farmer. You are loading it at this juncture when the terms of trade have been deteriorating and when the agriculture industry is unable to re-invest, capital formation is low and it is the hub of economy. At that very time, you are striking at it. It will affect the whole of the economy on a large scale. Balancing of? fiscal deficit is one thing and balancing the economy is another. It you are not balancing the economy, your economy will become imbalanced. Your fiscal balance will not improve. This is where it is going to lead.

This dual pricing certainly is not going to work. We know it. You know it in the heart of your heart. Perhaps you are saying that you will implement it up to a certain extent. You know you cannot carry it farther. What will really happen is, dual pricing is there and in the name of smaller farmers, fertiliser will be issued. Finally, you will find that it will lead to black-market and it will go back to the richer ones. If the small farmer has to buy it, he will have to buy it from black. It will result in reduced consumption of fertiliser.

I am not quoting from any unknown person. But I am quoting Dr. Swaminathan who is a very well-known agricultural scientist. Only today I was looking to his article. He has stated that whenever fertiliser prices have been raised, consumption has come down and production is also affected. It has taken some time for its recovery. That is the relationship in this situation. He asks that if we are going to face all this, what will happen to self-reliance.

So, here I would say that this decision of the Government to increase fertiliser prices in very unfortunate. I would suggest as and I would demand rather, that the increase in the fertiliser prices should be scrapped and the agriculture which is the hub of the economy should be saved. That is the only way to ensure our self-reliance and to ensure greater employment. Also, the vast country men who live in our rural-side will have some hope.

Therefore, Sir, I strongly demand that the fertilizer prices that have been raise by this Government, should be scrapped. I look forward to the Government and the Minister that they will do some thing in this regard.

Thank You,

SHRI S.MALLIKARJUNAIAH (Tumkur): Mr. Speaker: Sir, I am really happy because I am able to get an opportunity to speak about agriculturists as I myself an agriculturist. Very recently I have been to my constituency. Wherever we go, the agriculturists are rallying round the politicians and they are demanding that the rates of fertilizers shall have to be reduced and the subsidy that has been withdrawn, shall have to be restored. The reasons for this is very clear. I have been very much convinced about their demand. As the hon. former Prime Minister has rightly put it just now by this rich experience, if the same state of affairs are to continue, I think there will be a terrible shortage of foodgrains. There is no doubt about that. At present, the agriculturists are very much disappointed. To get some 50 kgs. of urea or sulphate, they have to go from depot to depot and in spite of that they are not in a position to get it. Actually, the agricultural season has started. They have not been able to get it with the result the foodgrains production will definitely go down. Therefore, my humble request is kindly treat this on par with the industry.

Sir, it is true that for many years, the rates were not increased. But at the same time we have not educated out agriculturists to go in for cow-dung or green manures. Our old system of preparing the manure - by storing cow-dung etc. in the pits - is virtually being wiped out. Everybody has become accustomed to using the fertilizers. Therefore, my humble request is that the rates of fertilizers should not be increased and the subsidy element also should not also be withdrawn.

Secondly, the rates of insecticides and pesticides are terribly very high. There is no proper control. It is left to the whims and fancies of the factories. They fix the rates and substandard insecticides and pesticides are being prepared; the agriculturists are purchasing them with th result that they are not very much benefited. Their agriculture is virtually spoiled. They could not save the crop.

Thirdly, I feel that the agriculturist is a producer. He must be looked with sympathy. For example, in my own State, we have faced a severe flood havoc. Half of Karnataka is undergoing shortage of rains and wherever we have sufficient rains, inundation is there. There is no rain on a regular basis. Except the wet-lands, the dry-lands are virtually withering; the crops have almost withered. Therefore, agriculture is virtually in the hands of monsoon. There is no assurance that water will be available. Therefore, I would request that agriculture should be treated as an industry. The Agriculturist must be looked with great sympathy because he is the producer.

Next, I come to agricultural implements. There is no parity between production and the rates of the agricultural commodities and the implements. Fancy prices are being fixed for the agricultural implements. Therefore, I request that parity may kindly be restored in this case also.

Lastly, I would like to say something about the Regulated market Cess (RMC). When it was introduced, it was stated in our State that whatever cess was collected that would be exclusively utilised for the rural development, transporting the agricultural commodities to the market places etc. But not a single *naya paisa* is spent for this purpose. The PWD shall have to spend some money if money is available or the Zilla Parishads have to do it. The Zilla Parishads are not in a position to spend money. Also, the PWD is not in a position to do it. What happened to the cess which you have assured when you introduced that Bill ? You are misusing it. You are misusing this fund for some other purpose. Virtually, it is the agriculturist who pays this cess for others benefits. During rainy days, he cannot bring

[Sh. S. Mallikarjunaiah]

his commodities to the market because the roads are very bad. Therefore, I would request the hon. Agriculture Minister to kindly look into this aspect.

Finally, I am very happy that the hon. Speaker has given me some time to speak. With these words, I end my speech.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in order to implement development programmes in the villages the Department of Rural Development had decided to pass the Panchayati Raj Bill. The 64th Constitutional Amendment in this regard was passed by the Lok Sabha, when late Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister and it was sent to the Rajya Sabha, where unfortunately, it could not be passed. However, this time our Prime Minister has constituted a group of Ministers to oversee the passage of the Panchayati Raj Bill, because the former Prime Minister, Shri V.P. Singh had convened a meeting of all the State Chief Ministers and made many changes in the original draft. It shall be our endeavour to introduce this Bill and get it passed this time.

You may be aware that we have a variety of local committees, known by various names like Panchayat Committee, Panchayat Samiti etc. We have more than five lakh villages in the country and the development that should have taken place has not taken place. Moreover, even these villages do not have proper motorable roads. After taking over this portfolio, I got an estimate done to find out the amount required to link our village roads all over the country with main roads and it was found that it would need 10,000 crore rupees to fulfil this Herculean task.

Even after 45 years of independence, our villages do not have connecting roads and it is the endeavour of both our dependent and other voluntary agencies working in this field to connect our village with roads. This is a very important task as the absence of these roads is a heavy financial burden for the agriculturists in these villages and our endeavour is to solve this problem as early as possible. Through the Panchayati Raj Bill, we want to provide some constitutional powers to the Panchayat President or the Sarpanch and a feeling would be created in their minds that they have been empowered to develop their villages. After the passage of this Constitution Amendment Bill, it would become abundantly clear to the elected representatives of the people, whether they be at the village, block or District level that elections to the local bodies would be conducted periodically on the lines of elections to the State Assemblies and the Parliament. Such a Bill would instil a sense of confidence in the minds of the people living in even those areas where no such local bodies exist at present.

Mr. Speaker, Sir as you may be aware, thousands of crores of rupees have been spent for the development of villages since independence, but the development that has taken place, is not upto the mark. All of you know this very well that when the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister , he used to say that even 15 percent of the crores of rupees that have been allocated so far to the upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, have not prelocated down. He was of the opinion that the middlemen pocket money meant for rural development. Thereafter, a serious effort was made to find out the actual process of rural development. The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana was launched keeping this in mind. This year the

Union Government has put 21 crore rupees and the State, 523.33 crores rupees, thus a total amount of 2623.33 crores rupees are being spent on this scheme. The main objective of this scheme is to generate rural employment 60% of the amount is to be spent on providing employment and 40% on purchase of necessary material. This year an amount of 524 crore rupees has been allocated for the 'Million wells scheme' to provide work to those who do not have food to keep their body and soul, together, to those who are unemployed, to those who are not getting any seasonal work. Under the 'Million wells' scheme, it is proposed to dig small wells for the benefit of small farmers. Thus this scheme, on the one hand would generate employment and on the other, improve irrigation facilities.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, similarly we have an 'Indira Awas Yojna' fully financed by the Union Government and its aims at providing dwellings to people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Rs. 157 crores have been allocated this year for this purpose. Thus, under the provisions of these schemes the 'Sarpanch'\or the head of the village panchayat shall be provided the necessary amount through the State Governments. Already cheques worth 1510.92 crores have been sent to village Panchayats or Panchayat Presidents and this amount would accelerate rural development.

However, there is a pre-condition, that the Village Panchayat Chief will have to call a meeting of the Gram Sabha to decide on the projects on which money is to be spent. Now that these powers have been given to them , development projects are being taken up in right earnest.

Mr. Speaker, Sir many hon. Members drew the attention of the Government towards the misuse of funds. In my opinion, money has been entrusted to elected representatives of the people and the Government is satisfied with the work that is being done. However, there may be some drawbacks and even cases of misuse of funds cannot be ruled out. The States are sending teams of check the loopholes and the Union Government too is sending team to check the misuse of funds.

I would like to inform you that under this scheme, 90 crore mandays are being created. The seasonal workers too are getting benefits under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. I am certain that this scheme would be further extended and would benefit the rural folk immensely.

You all are very well aware of the problem of land ceiling. For the past many years, many States have been trying to implement the Land Ceiling Act of the lines of Land Reforms. As you may be aware about six million hectares of waste land acquired after the abolition of the Zamindari system has been distributed by the States among the landless people. Ownership of about 7.72 million hectares of land has been given to tenants. Apart from this, the surplus lands at the disposal of the States have also been distributed among the landless. However, not much attention is being paid to "Benami" lands. Many big and powerful people own large areas of "Benami" land unless and until people from all parties join hands, it won't be possible to find out such 'benami' land. Unless this is revealed, it won't be possible to provide land to the landless people in the villages...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): You cannot do anything without political will. Your party should make its intentions clear...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY: There are many things, which cannot be said in the House. However, it is my belief that if we start this process right here, a large number

[Sh. G. Venkat Swamy]

of 'benami' land can be identified... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: I belong to the C.P.I. (M) and I am prepared to disclosed my assets.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY: Even I am prepared I don't possess even a single acre of land...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Are those Members, who possess lands, prepared to keep a list of their assets on the table of the House? So that we can proceed further...(*Interruptions*)...I am making a suggestion that let the Members come forward. I am ready to lay the list on the Table of the House. When I say that Members should come forward, I mean they they should come forward and declare how much land do they own....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): You have said the Members are saying so and if it is true, it is a serious charge. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.VENKAT SWAMY: I said that the Members may take it up and come forward with their declarations.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Let a committee of all parties be constituted so that the Members could visit different places in order to examine as to how much land is owned by each Member...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI G, VENKAT SWAMY: I said that a beginning should be made from detection of benami transactions so that it may have salutary effect on the people in the entire country and benami transaction could be detected. If all of us could work together, the dreams cherished by Gandhiji and Indiraji could be fulfilled. I am giving special emphasis on the land ceiling only because we are committed to transformation of the villages and thereby the country as a whole. This will help us in realising the dream of "Gram Swaraj' once seen by Gandhiji. There is no electricity in the villages even today.

14.30 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

There are no connecting roads in the villages. There are villages where the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have not been allotted houses even after the introduction of the Indira Avas Yojana. We are trying our best to see that these people get houses. We are taking the assistance of voluntary organisations for this purpose.

In spite of financial constraints in this year's Budget, we have made an additional provision of Rs. 250 crores for drinking water. In the Seventh Five Year Plan, 1,60,000 villages in the country were in the category of problem villages. We have solved the problem of drinking water in 1,50,000 villages by the end of March this year. Only 53,000 villages now remain in the category of problem villages. It is for these villages that we have provided this much of funds. We shall make arrangement for drinking water in such villages through filteration process, if possible. There are some villages where boring is not possible. Most of these villages are in hill areas...

SHRI AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu): In Rajasthan also.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY: Yes in Rajasthan also. It is our endeavour to see that problem of drinking water is solved in these villages. Without taking much time of the House, I would like to say that we are committed to speed up the work of rural development and it will be our endeavour to ensure that the poor in the villages...

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Before the hon. Minister concludes his speech, I would like to know from him whether Government intends to fulfil the first promise in the Congress election-manifesto, viz that we shall bring within 100 days of coming to power the Constitutional Amendment Bill on Panchayati Raj and Nagarpalikas? Is the Government bringing forward the Panchayati Raj Bill?

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY: I had said about it in the beginning itself. Perhaps, you were not present at that time. A sub-committee of group of Ministers has been constituted for the purpose and the matter is under consideration of that Sub-Committee. It is our earnest endeavour to being forward the Panchayati Raj Bill.

Without taking any further time, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I would like to submit, through you that our department will examine all th suggestions put forward by the hon. Members and try to implement them. I would request the hon. Member to withdraw the cut motions they have given on the Demands for Grants of the Department of Rural Development so that we could march towards progress and dispel darkness to pave way for light in the villages. With these few words, I conclude.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: Ten hours were allotted for this Demand, of which 16 hours are already over. Our party was allotted 37 minutes, but only two of our Members have spoken. Shall not we get more time?

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is true that only two persons have to speak - Shri Chokka Rao Juvvadi and Shrimati Basave Rajeswari. Thereafter, the Hon. Minister is to reply for this.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: the smaller parties, that is, those who have only two or three Members, have already consumed 14-15 minutes.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): That is not correct.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAN: That is correct. We are 34 Members.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let us check up whether any injustice has been done.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, whether time was due to the small parties, it has been given. There was absolutely no special favour given to small parties.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Chokka Rao Juvvadi.

[*Translation*]

SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO (Karimnagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Demands for Grants of the Ministries of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, I would like to put forward a few suggestions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have made tremendous progress in the field of foodgrain production Thanks to the achievements of our research scientists and hard work put in by our farmers. However, the Government or the political parties have not paid adequate attention to the rural people who constitute 70 per cent of our country's population and on whom depends the entire country. I would like to congratulate our scientists and farmers who are feeding this country. Most of our rural farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans who constitute over 70 per cent of our population live below poverty line. Their number is 50 per

[Sh. J. Chokka Rao]

cent of their total population. Neither the ruling party nor the parties in opposition are doing anything concrete for their upliftment. Just now, our former Prime Minister made a mention of agricultural policy. Whosoever came to power, whether it was Shri Devilal, the former Deputy Prime Minister and Agricultural Minister or somebody else, they talked of agricultural policy day in and day out but took no decision in this regard. Now that Shri Bal Ram Jakhar, a leader of the farmers happens to be the Minister of Agriculture, may I know as to when the agriculture policy would be finalised. Let the Government take a decision in this regard in consultation with all political parties in this House. The policy so formulated should not be for the benefit of the ruling party, it should be in the interest of farmers. Therefore, it has to be formulated through mutual understanding. Just now Shri V.P.Singh said that the investment in agriculture sector was going down. In the Fifth Plan, investment on irrigation was 11.3 percent, in agriculture it was 8.6 per cent. In the Sixth Plan, corresponding figure went down to 10 per cent in irrigation and 6 per cent in agriculture. In the Seventh Plan, it further slumped to 9 per cent in irrigation 5.9 per cent in agriculture. Our former Prime Minister also knows as to who is creating impediments in it and why we are not achieving success in this regard. The rural farmers and rural labourers are not properly organised. In the interest of politics of vote,-the capitalists are concentrating on urban development and are exploiting the rural areas. The result is that income disparity between the urban and rural people in increasing even after independence.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a short while ago, the Minister for Rural Development, Shri Venkat Swamy was speaking about land reforms. Why land reforms were not implemented? The hon Minister was saying that, whosoever is in power, whether it is the Congress Party, Janata Dal or any other party, the politicians take recourse to benami transactions. Why does not the hon. Minister name such politicians. All political parties should make it obligatory on the part of their Members to declare their assets and property honestly. Those who take recourse to benami transactions should be exposed and expelled from the party. The names of those who hold political offices and indulge in such activities should be exposed. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is sitting here. I would like to ask him as to why did not they expose the names of such politicians when they were in power. Now that he is out of power, he wants to know the names of such politicians. If he is committed to this cause, he should mobilize the people for agitation against this malpractice and expose the people who indulge in such acts. Merely making speeches in the House Will not do. Will he organise the farmers?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Those who own benami land should not be given ticket for M.P

SHRI G.VENKAT SWAMY: Let all parties decide it together.

SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: I am not referring to any particular political party. Such politicians may be in your party as well as in our party. If the people in power, whether they are Ministers or other politicians are sincerely committed irrespective of their party affiliations, they can expose such people, and flush out benami transition. If politicians do not do it, the people will have to organise themselves so as to expose such people in the society. Through their misdeeds such people are bringing bad name to the rural people. Urban ceiling has turned out to be a mere slogan. Whichever party may be in power, to what extent have they enforced the urban ceiling? It has become a source of bribe and money making. Therefore, there is a need to organise the people who are committed and working for the rural areas irrespective of the political party they belong to. As long on the farmer's leaders in the country do not win the confidence of agricultural labourers, they cannot be called leaders of the farmers. The leader who does not enjoy the confidence of the agricultural labourers and other exploited people cannot do justice to them. I shall take only two-three minutes more.

Everybody is unhappy over the withdrawal of subsidy on fertilizer. The reason that has been given by the Finance Minister is that the economic condition of the country is bad and, therefore, this subsidy of Rs. 2000 crores should be withdrawn. When an agitation was launched against this decision, as assurance was given that subsidy on fertilizer will continue in the case of marginal and small farmers. But nobody including Shri Bal Ram Jakhar and opposition leaders plead the case of farmers with the Government today. Who should bear the burden of this subsidy worth Rs. 2000 crores? The Government should have imposed this burden on capitalists who are making enormous profits by manufacturing luxury goods. The Government says that if the benefit of subsidy is given to the small and marginal farmer, it will resuit in corruption. Where do the political parties stand today? How can we show our faces to the small and marginal farmers in the villages if we are not able to make the intended benefit of subsidy available to them? It is a act that it is difficult to implement it because there is no commitment on the part of political parties. We raise slogans only to fetch votes. If the hon. Prime Minister Shri P.V Narasimha Rao has taken a decision for the benefit of small and marginal farmers, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has agreater responsibility then Shri Bal Ram Jakhar for its implementation because the use of fertilizer is largely confined to Haryana, punjab and certain other States. So far as small and marginal farmers of Bihar are concerned, they do not have even irrigational facilities. The Government must provide them more irrigational facilities for their cultivation.

Coming to land ceiling, I would like to point out that distribution of surplus land under the land ceiling has proved to be a force. The Government takes credit for distributing surplus land, but may I ask what type of land has been distributed? Water logged land is distributed. Can such land be cultivated ? This is all politicalisation of the issue. The Government distributes such surplus land which in fact is Government land. But as they do not get other facilities, they have not become farmers and have remained labourers. Instead of wasting crores of rupees on land and Land Ceiling Act implementation, the poor labourers should be provided facilities. Unless the politicians mend their ways the condition of villages will not improve. I would like to cite an example in this connection. When Shri Rajiv Gandhi brought forward the Panchayati Raj Bill it was defeated in the Rajya Sabha.

The former Prime Minister had expressed a desire to have participation of the weaker sections in Government and their representation in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha by bringing a Constitution Amendment Bill. But what happened to the Panchayat Bill which was brought forward during your time. You might be aware of it or not but such a Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha. Just now the Rural Development Minister has referred to a sub-committee of the Cabinet to bring forward the Panchayati Raj Bill. Instead of bringing a Bill on the recommendation of the sub-committee of Cabinet, I would like that changes should be made in the Panchayati Raj Act by providing representation to agricultural labour, artisans, small and marginal farmers and those living in villages. The persons who belong to villages but are in employment or working in the towns and cities and have property in the cities should not be registered in the

[Sh. J. Chokka Rao]

Voter's list of Panchayats. Even our Planning Commission does not think about them. These labourers should have a right to make plan to ameliorate their lot and implement it. If we leave it to the Planning Commission it will not benefit the labourers and farmers. Unless there is a change in the system itself, we will not succeed. Therefore, I would like that we should rise party politics and work together.

Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singhji, I do not know whether you would get another opportunity or not? I do not know whether you would again become Prime Minister or not and where would the Janata party take you. The slogan which you gave about doing justice to the workers should be carried forward and I would like you to strengthen the hands of your junior colleague, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, who is sitting next to you. You should rise above party considerations and unite the workers, so that the land ceiling be there and the lands of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes remain safe. Today, the lands of Scheduled Tribes is forcibly occupied by others and even if some Harijans and Adivasis have got land holdings they do not have adequate irrigation facilities nor do they have any other facility. You should provide them irrigation facilities free of cost, whether it is through minor irrigation or irrigation with water fetched from well. The situation today is that he forsakes farming and rushes to cities for job. The Government must help him.

Though I wanted to make many suggestions but because of time limit I would conclude after making one or two suggestions. Even our party allots us very little time when we have to speak. It is unfortunate and it deserves consideration. I would like to submit here that we may belong to any party whether it is Janata Dal, Leftists or any other Party, our basic difference are with the B.J.P. but even then all of us should work together and try to do justice to the society.

I know hon. Minister of Agriculture, that you want to work for the betterment of these people but you are not getting full support from other Members of the Cabinet and the Opposition. I know that it can be done only when we work together. I think there is concensus on this issue that we have to uplift the poor and weaker sections of the society. All of us want that the hardworking and honest people in this country should get an opportunity to progress and prosper. We want that the farmers should prosper but in spite of that we do not succeed. When a farmer approaches for loan he faces innumerable hardships. All our institutions have become weak, particularly, the Co-operative Movement. The Co-operative sector does not get adequate assistance also.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to appeal through you, to the entire country and the workers in particular, that they should unite and fight for their rights. If we continue with petty party politics we would not be able to achieve much. The people living in villages should also forsake their petty differences and the farmers, workers, artisans and others should unite together. Only then we can achieve something. That is what I feel and want to convey it to the entire country through you. With these words I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Masudal Hossain.

Mr. Hossain, you please give some importance to time because those Members who get chance to speak early they get more time and those who speak in the last, get very little time.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): Sir, I did not want to touch the land reforms issue but now as a point has been raised about it, I would like to discuss it. 1/5th of the total land that was distributed throughout the country is in West Bengal and one of the reasons for doing so was the political will of the State Government. When we acquired land of the big-land-lords, we knew that we would not be able to distribute land to all the landless labourers and in fact even they knew that it would not be possible for the Government to distribute land to all. But in spite of this our party made an announcement to this effect that we would acquire land of the big landlords and as soon as we did it people came out with lathis. This lathi was not for land but it was against the feudal system. As such the feudal system in West Bengal has collapsed and Panchayat Raj has been established without any bloodshed. Now the landless labourers and the Adivasis become Sarpanch ana no lawyers, doctors and businessman who work in the cities, are not able to become Sarpanch. This is not the case in other States. Land reforms in West Bengal has made the feudal system a total failure. I did not want to speak on it but anyway I have made a passing reference.

Sir, the subject on which I want to express my views has bot been taken up for discussion by the House and that is the Co-operative movement. Shri Jakhar is present here and he has done his Doctorate on this subject. I would like to draw his attention to the fact that there are two types of co-operatives in West Bengal. The co-operative which could have really benefited the poor and provide him facilities is not working properly. The co-operative system is a three-tier and four-tier system. The other co-operative is not family co-operative system like sugar mills, rice mills etc. These co-operatives directly get money from the Government. The agency that provides them funds in N.C.D.C. Now I come to marketing. About Agricultural Marketing, it you want, I can give you statistics. In 1974 there were two lakh Primary Agricultural co-operative Societies, in 1984 they were 93,000 in 1987 these were 90,000 and in 1989-90 they were just 87,000. On the other hand the agro-processing units like the Sugar mills, Rice mills are increasing but they are not getting adequate facilities. I have the figures of the funds that have been provided to LAMRS (Large Multipurpose Societies). Just Rs. 90 crores were given under this scheme, whether a sum of Rupees 100 crores, 150 crore and 200 crore is being given to Sugar mills and Rice mills. The facilities that are being provided to the poor through co-operative societies are decreasing. Through N.C.D.C. the other type of Co-operative is being encouraged. In fact Co-operative is a state subject but there is a system of Central assistance that without which this sector cannot work effectively. When the Government provides funds through N.C.D.C it does not take the State Government's approval. It has been stated in the 26th Report of the Public Accounts Committee which was submitted for the period 1985-86:

[*English*]

> "The Committee understands that in certain States, the National Cooperative Development Corporations have been releasing grants directly to State Cooperative Bank without involving the concerned State Government."

[*Translation*]

The Centre does not involve the State Government and then says that it is a State subject. With the result what has happened in Burdwan, West Bengal should be looked into. Funds were sanctioned for setting up a

[Sh. Syed Masudal Hossain]

Rice mill but that Rice mill never came up. This is given in the N.C.D.C report. I would like to submit that though the Central Government has its policies in all other fields such as Education, Health or Textiles but there is no policy for co-operative sector which may provide maximum facilities to poor farmer of villages. There is no separate Minister to deal with the affairs of villages. The Officers who draft report in respect of Co-operatives are callous in their approach. I have with me two reports i.e. of last year and of this year. All the paras about Co-operative are the same as they were last year except the first para which has been changed. If you want I can read it out. We had heard that the students copy during examinations but your Department also copies reports word be word. Even the full stop and coma has not been changed. The work which can be done by co-operative is done by other agencies. We see this in the case of jute in West Bengal. Jute is an agricultural produce and the co-operative sector was adequate for marketing it, but the JCI which is connected with the textiles, has been entrusted the task of marketing jute. Had the Marketing Federation purchased jute, would it have done any harm. The funds which are given to JCI could have been given to the Marketing Federation.

There is lot of cotton production in Haryana. The CCI has been set up to procure cotton there. Had it been procured direct from Marketing Federation, it would have helped the farmers to some extent. But the Government does not think in this direction. We do not pay attention to production-oriented co-operatives. If we pay even a little attention to it, perhaps the farmers in villages might benefit a little from it.

14.58 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

I would like to urge that if the Panchayats and Co-operatives work together and the implementation of land reforms is done successfully we can bring about a sea change in the condition of villages. But we can hope little from the Government because it has some other intention.

I would like to make one more submission about the farmers that CWC was set up to provide storage facilities to the farmers for their produce. At that time a law was also enacted that if any farmer stores his produce with CWC and obtains receipt, he would be entitled to get 90 per cent loan against that receipt. But now CWC has passed

15.00 hrs.

into the hands of business community. I was going through the report for the year 1984-85 on Public Undertakings in which it has been stated that in 1980-81 only 259 farmers, 1981-82 only 409 farmers and in 1982-83 only 344 farmers kept their produce with CWC. It was set up with a view to provide facility to the farmers to keep their produce but today they are not getting opportunity to keep their produce. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to ensure that our farmers in rural areas get opportunity to keep their produce with CWC for whom it was set up. By dong that our small farmers who keep their produce with Baniyas could also save their money.

With these words I would request the hon. Minister to pay attention on the points which I have raised and particularly on the cooperatives.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this discussion. I have been trying to participate, for several days to get myself an opportunity

[Smt. Basavarajeswari]

and finally today on the last day I got it. I am very thankful to you.

Because the time is short, I would like to give a few suggestions. I am very happy that the Hon. Minister for Agriculture, Shri Bal Ram Jakhar, who was the President of the Bharat Krishak Samaj and was advocating much for the welfare of the farmers, is now the Minister for Agriculture. He knows the problems very well. He is very serious in handling the position to find out ways and see that the farmer is not put to a great hardship. But unfortunately due to the financial crisis, I am afraid whether he would be able to implement some of the welfare measures meant for the farmers.

On fertilizers many Members have spoken. Many State Governments have already stated that they are not in a position to implement the dual policy as enunciated by the Finance Minister. They are saying that it is very difficult to implement it. There is every possibility of the misuse of fertilizer and also the funds meant for it may be misappropriated. Therefore, some ways and means should be sorted out for this. The Government of India has decided about the enhancement of the price of fertilizer. The sowing season has started and if the fertilizer is not available, the entire farming community would become upset. It would have been better if the subsidy were removed carefully and gradually. But the sudden removal of the subsidy for the fertilizer has caused a lot of inconvenience to the farmers.

Firstly, the fertilizers are not available. The dealers are not selling. Secondly, the price has also been hiked up. The rise in the prices of other commodities also is there. The argument put forth by the Finance Minister is that he is going to compensate them at the time of procurement. I would like to ask which is the agency that is going to procure? Does it mean that the procurement would continue throughout the year? Then the problem will continue to be there. Where. Will it be applicable for all the other food grains which we grow? I do not think so. How many societies are functioning? How much is there to provide for it? There are the things which have to be thought over. Otherwise, it is going to be a slogan. The farmers will lose confidence on us. We have to find out the ways and means as to how best we can compensate the price rise in the fertiliser.

Procurement of foodgrains should be taken throughout the country and the money should be provided from the Central Government to all the societies to procure most of the foodgrains or the oilseeds which they grow at the appropriate time. There should be proper godowns to keep the produce. Otherwise, this is going to be a waste. There are no proper godowns and without proper godowns, how are you going to procure such committees. It is going to be a very tough job. The entire commodity which we are going to procure is going to be a waste. So, this aspect also should be thought over.

Next, I come to the seed aspect. As on date, most of the seeds which we are getting are adulterated. Many people are involved in this. In the name of certification, they sell the adulterated seeds to the farmers at a higher rate an d the innocent farmers purchase these seeds and when the crop comes for harvest, they see the difference. And because of this, the production is very much less. Therefore, there should be a National Seed Act. There are Acts at the State level. But they are not being implemented properly. There should be a National seed Act throughout the country top see that only certified seeds which have come out from the research stations are supplied to the farmers instead of using the seeds indiscriminately by the farmers. This has to be thought over.

There are a number of central farms in the country. We have given a lot of money for the central farms, its research and development, levelling, etc. What is the fate of these central farms today? In my constituency there is a very big farm; 4,000 acres have been acquired under Tungabadra irrigation project. it is a beautiful b lack cotton soil. Now what is the fate of the central farm today? It is full of babultrees. It is not a waste? Either you hand it over to the State Government, where they are entrusted to grow seeds in that farm or manage the whole farm and take it up at the national level so that some intensive cropping pattern can betaken in the central farm. This is my suggestion.

Regarding soil conservation and wasteland development,we are spending a lot of money and we want to avoid soil erosion and to develop wasteland. A lot of money is being misused in this. There is no proper authority to check up whether the money which we are spending for the soil conservation and wasteland development is being utilised properly or not. I am sorry to say that the Officers in that Department are very happy to work in the Soil Conservation Department. There is quite a misuse of funds. Very recently in my constituency, in one Zilla Parishad, some officers involved in this and they have taken not less than Rs. 40 lakhs, and the investigation is going on. What is that you can do? You can only suspend those officers. What for these funds are being used? There should be a follow-up programme as far as the soil; conservation and wasteland is concerned.

Now, I come to sprinkler and drip irrigation. Here is an irrigation system, with a little water that is available, we can irrigate more and more. This should be encouraged. More and more subsidies should be given. Even the small and marginal farmers should be given fifty per cent subsidy as far as the sprinkler and drip irrigation systems are concerned.

Now I come to the New Agricultural Policy. Till date we have not announced the New Agricultural Policy. After 1956, several times we had announced the Industrial Policy. After 40 years of independence, we are unable to announce the Agricultural Policy. This has to be taken into consideration. I hope the hon. Minister will think seriously about the New Agricultural Policy as early as possible. Sixty per cent of the population is very much depending on agriculture.

This policy is very very essential for the entire farming community as a whole.

Then, regarding remunerative prices, the Hon.Minister was kind enough to mention on the floor of the House that while fixing the remunerative prices for the crops, he will take into consideration, manual labour, investment on land, managerial cost and cost of inputs, market trend and transport etc. The inputs, pesticides, fertilisers, steel, cement, these are all the essential commidities where the farmer is using Apart from that transport is also very costly. Therefore, I would request the Government that all these things should be taken into consideration at the time of fixing the remunerative price for the crops.

The farmer is not getting remunerative price nor the consumer is getting things at a reasonable price, and the third man is eating away the entire money. For example, apple is sold at Rs.4/- a kg in Himachal Pradesh, when it comes to Delhi it is sold at Rs. 20/- per kg; grapes are sold at Rs.6/- kg, built when it come to Delhi it is Rs. 30/- per kg. There is a lot of difference. Therefore, some value added products should be established. Hence, I would suggest that more processing units, agro-based industries should be established in each and every district.

Krishi Vighyan Kendras should be started in each district. In my constituency I have been asking KVK Jhagri in Ballary District. Karnataka Government is pressing to start oil- seed Development Project and Onion Research Development Project at Belgaum. These two projects should be sanctioned by the Central Government.

Then, Karnataka is well-known for growing vegetables. I think that many of the vegetables are being sent to various States where th ere are no adequate vegetables. There are no cold storage coaches in the railways for transporting the vegetables. Hence, I would request the Department of Agriculture to provide air-conditioned coach to transport vegetables from Karnataka. Fruits are also grown in Karnataka like grapes etc. For that also proper arrangement should be made. Potatoes are grown in Kolar, Hasan and Belgaum. The Hon.Minister was kind enough to reply on the floor of the House that there are 76 cold storage godowns in Karnataka. Those godowns are meant only to store fish products. Hence, there is need for more godowns to store potatoes. For want of that, the farmers are forced to make distress sell. Hence, cold storage godowns should be provided in all the three districts to store the potatoes.

Then, I would like to speak something about Rural Development and Panchayati Raj and Nagarpalika Bill. This is a revolutionary Bill which has been thought over and it has been discussed at length. It provides for 30 per cent reservation for ladies. It should be passed without any delay. We should never forget the effort made by late Shri Rajiv Gandhi who had done lot of work at the time of introduction of the Bill. Discussions were held at various levels and taking into consideration the policies and programmes of various State, he had taken the cream out of it and brought that revolutionary Bill before th e House. It is our duty and we have also stated in our manifesto that as early as possible, we are going to enact this law. I hope this will be enacted as early as possible.

As of today, we have been thinking of importing vegetable oils and also cotton. What for, I do not know. When there is foreign exchange crisis, is it necessary that we should import oil and cotton from other countries? That will reach only at the time when our farmers would have grown them and would be awaiting the crop. Then they will have to sell them at a distress sale only. I do not think it is necessary to import oil and cotton from other countries when our farmers are already growing oilseeds and cotton, including long-staple cotton.

We should seriously think of exporting some of the agricultural produces. I think wherever necessary, we should be in a position to export and wherever necessary, we should be ina position to import. This policy should be thought of very clearly and without delay.

Regarding drinking water, we should provide drinking water to every village. There are villages which do not have adequate water. That is also one of the problems. Simply saying that we have provided drinking water is not sufficient. Inadequate water also means that there is no water. The population is growing very fast. We should try to implement the *Yojana* thought of by our late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and, as far as possible, we should try to provide drinking water throughout the country.

With regard to the Public Distribution System, I would like to make one or two suggestions. We have issued Green Cards for supply of foodgrains. The Green Cards that we have issued are not only very inadequate, the persons whom they have been

[Smt. Basavarajeswari]

issued also shows that this is politically-motivated. Real beneficiaries have not been given Green Cards. So, we should enlarge the scope and many people should be given Green Cards, both in urban areas as well as in rural areas. More and more people should be brought under this system.

There is shortage of commodities and also adulteration at each level. So, there is every possibility of misuse of the commodities which are supposed to be distributed under the dual price policy. Therefore, we should have a proper set up. There is no proper and uniform administrative set up at present. In one State, the Zila Parishads are entrusted in another State, only the District Collectors are administering; and in another State, there is a separate Food Department who has been entrusted with the task of distributing the commodities. Therefore, I would suggest that there should a uniform set up and also the shortages and adulterations should be be checked properly. It is better that the entire system should be entrusted to ladies. They will be capable of doing justice and they know the facts how these should be distributed. I hope they will be honest in supplying these commodities to the rural folk.

With these words, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak and support the demands.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request all the Members who are going to participate in the debate to be very brief because still there are many Members who want to speak. Now, Shri Premchand Ram.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PREM CHAND RAM (Nawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am a new entrant to the Parliament and it is my maiden speech. Therefore, I would like to thank you, for giving me an opportunity to speak. Now this session is going to end. During this Budget session I realised as to how the intelligentsia has given rise to the capitalism by lowering the dignity of labour and by exploiting the agricultural labourers and workers. As a result of it a major group of agricultural labourers and workers have become annoyed and heading towards extremism and terrorism. This labour force could have joined the national mainstream in national building but no alternative steps were taken for their development.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I belong to a village and therefore I would like to tell the prevailing condition of the land in rural areas. Land reforms programme was launched during first five year plan but the problem of land reforms is still unresolved. Development programmes implemented after independence have benefited some areas but some other areas remained neglected. West Bengal, Assam, Orissa, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are the main paddy producing states but no progress has been made there to increase the production of paddy. There is no doubt about it that all the laws enacted during 1950 to 1970 in this regard remained ineffective. This fact was accepted in the report of the meetings of Agriculture and Revenue Ministers of the States called between 1986-89 by the Late Rajiv Gandhi's Government. Every time it was said that there are certain loopholes in land ceiling laws and they would be plugged. In every meeting it was repeated and the failure of land reforms were accepted. 1990 was marked as agriculture year and the Government of Shri V.P. Singh also called meetings n agriculture. The then Agriculture Minister was considered to be very close to the farmer community and was called as masiha of farmers but these problems were not discussed even during his tenure.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the beginning of

Ninth Lok Sabha it was said in the President Address that 'land belong to the tiller' but it is missed in the President Address given at the beginning of Tenth Lok Sabha and it seems that the Government have forgottten it and they have nothing to do with the farmers.

Sir, the Hon Prime Minister has admitted it in a reply given to the West Bengal Chief Minister comrade jyoti Basu that land reforms laws have been properly implemented there and other states should follow it. But what the Government is doing in this regard? Not even one and a half per cent of the surplus land have been distributed among the landless labourers. It is been stated in the Rural Laburer Inquiry Committee's report that the number of landless agriculture labourers has gone to 15 crores. Sir it is astonishing as to why it is happening. The number of marginal farmers is increasing by by ten lakh every year. The percentage of these marginal farmers was 51 in 1970-71 which has now risen to 58-1 per cent. In this way if you count landless labourers and these marginal farmers together that would come around more than three-fourths of the total population. What may be the statistics of the Government, but infact poverty is increasing and it will go up till land reforms are not implemented. It has been discused at length and I think the Government will take some concrete steps in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, laws relating to the bonded labourer, minimum wages and 20 point programme are not coming into force because of influence of big landlords. Police also work under their influence and the leaders who demand the implementation of these laws are killed in fake encounters by branding them as extremists or terrorists or they are not behind the bars.

What was the result of going in for a Green Revolution without Implementing reform laws. Agricultural productivity did increase but we are still far away from a position of self-reliance. Our country needs 27 crore tonnes of foodgrain if each and every citizen is to have the minimum amount of calories to stay healthy but our production is only 17.5. crore tonnes. So, the Government cannot claim that the country is self-reliant when half the population does not get an adequate diet. Prosently, 12.5. lakh tonnes of foodgrain are being imported. In view of the increasing population if the foodgrain production is not increased by 80 lakh tonnes per annum, the problem of starvation will become unmanageable. Let us turn our attention to the Five-Year Plans. Statistics related to the Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plans, as given in the Economic Review, show as steady decline in the rate of productivity. The rate of growth of population is 2.25% per annum whereas the rate of production in case of foodgrain is 1.7% per annum. Studies conducted by experts in various parts of the country indicate that barring a few States like West Bengal and Kerala, in most of the States the landlords are dominating the administration and have a strong influence over the Gram panchayats. They pocket crores of rupees through the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. The late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had himself admitted that people in villages get only 1/6th of the funds meant for them. May we know where the rest of the money goes? This is the reason why 4 crore hectares of barren land has not been distributed among the poor. Agriculture has been affected by the problem of land erosion. The land under forests is of no use. The lending institutions in the agricultural sector like the Agriculture Co-operative Committees and Land Development Banks are dominated by landlords. So poor farmers are not able to get loans. Village craftsmen are a dying breed. People in rural areas are going deeper into the mine of poverty as they are burdened by debts. Small and marginal farmer are not able to adopt the latest farming techniques, nor can they afford quality seeds and fertilizer. With the result their productivity is low. Small and marginal farm-

[Sh. Prem Chand Ram]

ers constitute 76% of the total farmers in our country. Agricultural reforms are thought of due to the commanding influence of landlords over small farmers but these reforms are never implemented. The legislation regarding minimum wage for labour is on paper only. There has been a break in the level of agricultural productivity, particularly in areas where the Green Revolution has taken place. The Economic Review states that during the Sixth and Seventh Plan periods, the rate of foodgrain production was 34% in West Bengal, 24% in Haryana, 23% in Punjab 21% in Bihar and 18% in U.P. This shows the rate of productivity is falling in States where the Green Revolution has taken place and plenty of assistance has been given to farmers. These farmers prefer to grow cash crops which are more profitable. Hence, the fall in rate of production in case of foodgrain. In States like West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar and U.P. the number of small and marginal farmers is very large. As agriculture is their only source of livelihood they work very hard to fulfill their needs.

Farmers in Punjab and Haryana invest less in crops like wheat and rice because of low returns on investment. They are laying more emphasis on setting up agro-based industries and are desirous of investing their money in the same. The production of wheat and rice thus suffers. Therefore, there is need for strict implementation of land reform laws. The used land area belonging to big landlords should be distributed among the small and marginal farmers to fully utilize its capacity. This would lead to a qualitative increase in production and provide an opportunity for export of foodgrain instead of its import. This is possible only when 'benami' land is identified by the Government. The extra land must be distributed among the poor through land ceiling. Only such steps can help the poor to survive.This will raise the country's prestige and brighten the prospects for development. The implementation of land reform laws is necessary for the upliftment of people living below the poverty line. It would be a step towards social justice. Gram Panchayats can also be made autonomous. Otherwise development of forests, welfare of the poor and a clean environment will remain to be achieved. What good will it do if such things are merely subjects for discussion in the Lok Sabha? Alleviation of poverty and checking atrocities in society will become distant dreams.

The rate of agricultural productivity was 6% in the Sixth Plan and 4% in the Seventh Plan. The rate of fodgrain production was 4% and 3.6 % in the Sixth and Seventh Plan respectively. It shows that the rate of foodgrain production was less than total agricultural production. Members of the ruling party make tall claims through speeches for the poor but do not take any action. They claim that their party is taking steps to uplift those who live below the poverty line.

Agriculture is the foundation of industry and development in general depends on it Social tensions can be diffused if there is equality in education, inclusion of the right to work in the fundamental rights and provision of unemployment allowance for the unemployed. Implementation of land reform laws can make all this possible.

Villages should be agriculturally progressive, farmers should get remunerative prices for their produce compensation against destruction of crops should be paid etc. A contingency fund should be set u p in every villages to provide quality seeds, fertilizers and pesticides to farmers and protect them from the clutches of unscrupulous moneylenders. The debt-ridden farmers go through a lot of hardship every year, particularly when their crops are destroyed. In such circumstance it should be declared a drought affected area. I don't think any attention is paid in this direction. Bihar and U.P. are drought affected areas but I don't think that the local farmers will be compensated for their destroyed crops. Whereas factories are insured, and if they go bankrupt, adequate compensation is paid to them to revive them but this is not done in case of farmers. It is not fair on the part of the Government to neglect the farmers who feed the masses.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI PREM CHAND RAM : I am just concluding. Will the Government take steps to improve the lot of farmers. Facilities like electricity and tubewells should be provided free of cost to poor farmers. The Government should pay attention to it that benefits of schemes meant for small farmers are not 4 surped by big farmers.

Sir I support my Hon. colleagues who say that without implementing land reforms panchayati Raj will remain a distant dream and we will not be able to save society from exploitation. This must be taken into consideration if small farmers and labourers are to be saved from exploitation. With these words I thank you and conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Mr Chairman, Sir, India is a great country having a vast stretch of land available for cultivation. More that 70 percent of the total population is agriculturists, Kisans. So, the country is said to be the Land of Kisans. So, our country will look more beautiful when all the cultivable lands are kept ever-green throughout the year. The country will be stronger when the Kisans are made stronger.

Of this great country, Manipur is a part in the North Eastern region. For the welfare of the people, particularly the Kisans, I am very much agreeable to the proposal of treating agriculture as an Industry. I think, it will encourage the Kisans and promote the activities of Kisans.

I would now like to propose a scheme to give pension to the Kisans when they become very old and when they are unable to work in the field. As you know, the employees of the Government or semi-Government or other organisations are given pension after 30 years of service or when they are over 60 years. But when the Kisans are very old and unable to work in the field, there is none to look after them, if they do not have their children to look after them. It is a very pitable position in which the Kisans are living. Therefore, I would like to propose a scheme for providing remuneration in the shape of pension or in some other form so that they can live on when they are unable to work.

Now I am coming to Manipur. I rise to thank our Hon. Minister of Agriculture since his Ministry has taken a decision, which has been informed in this House that the Agricultural University for the Northeast will be established in Manipur.

I thank the Ministry for taking such an important decision. It has been a long-left need for the region. It will now meet the need of the region.

Manipur was known as the granary in the East of India in respect of production of rice. There is plenty of paddy produced in Manipur and it supplied paddy to Nagaland and to some parts of Assam also. But now the position is quite the reverse. Now the state has become deficit. The produce cannot meet the demand of the people because the land available for reclamation is not much and the population has been increasing very much. So, the produce cannot provide to feed the increasing population. In the context of the new scientific inventions of technology, I think the farmer must be taught to

[Sh. Yaima Singh Yumnam]

cultivate in the method invented newly. In that case only, the farmers will be able to produce more. This University that is going to be established will be helpful in that light.

I would like to bring to the notice of this House that there is a particular variety of rice in Manipur known as CHAK-HAO. It is not available anywhere in the world. It is available only in Manipur. The colour of this rice is black. In Manipur, if a feast is arranged,Chakhao rice is a must for the menu. It is rich in food value also. If Chakhao rice can be produced in large quantity and if it can be exported, it will earn foreign exchange. This is my, proposal.

In this context, I would like to propose that this type of rice is to be produced in large quantity.

I would like to propose that research centres should be set up in every district of every State in the country. That will be very much helpful to make the growth of agriculture in all the States throughout the country.

Lastly, I would like to say that it would be in the interest of the rural population if 50 per cent of the total amount available for development is earmarked separately for investing in programmes of rural development. As you know, wothout developing the rural areas, India cannot be taken as having made any improvement. As Gandhiji said "if one wants to see India, the real India, he has to go to the villages." Therefore the rural population must be developed and enough funds should be provided for that purpose.

With these few words, I thank you very much for giving me time to speak.

[*Translation*]

*SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS (Mysore) : Mr Chairman Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants of the Ministries ice of Food, Agriculture and Rural Development. I thank you Sir for giving me an opportunity to speak on these vital issues. While speaking on Agriculture and Rural Development I would like to give some suggestions for the consideration of the Hon'ble Ministers of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Agriculture is the main profession of our country. Many people especially people in the rural areas are dependent upon agriculture and other subsidiary industries. Many farmers follow the traditional method of cultivation and they depend upon rain completely. After independence the 5 year plans have brought some changes in the method of cultivation. Our late Prime Minister, late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had said that we should treat the irrigation projects as temples. Even now we can see such inscriptions and other wise sayings on the foundation stones. This was the faith that our late Pandit Nehru had in the irrigation projects and we should follow his foot steps if we are really interested in the welfare of our farmers.

Farmer wants to be self sufficient and is content with minimum needs. Scientific developments and implementation of five year plans have helped to modify the method of cultivation. Farmers are benefited by the various agricultural research centres set up in the country. These days the processed seeds are supplied to the farmers. Animal Husbandry is an integral part of agriculture. Animal Husbandry can flourish only when the forests are protected. Sufficient quantity of cattle feed should be available. Unfortunately the forest area is decreasing day by day and this has to be checked once for all.

There are sufficient discussions in this House and outside the House about Fertilizers and subsidy. There is a feeling that the agricultural produce would be more nutritious if it is grown using chemical fertilizers. Of course, the use of chemical fertilizers has resulted in the increase of agricultural produce. The use of manure in agriculture is on the decrease. Many youths are migrating from villages to urban areas. Job opportunities, entertainments etc. available in cities have attracted the village youths. Our Government should take immediate steps to check this migration and to help the agriculturists. Therefore, Animal Husbandry, poultry, sheep rearing, sericulture and other subsidiaries of agriculture have to be encouraged. Then only the farmers can become self sufficient and production of agricultural produces can increase. For example we can earn more foreign exchange if we increase the production of silk. The Govt. should also encourage the use of compost manure. Compost manure is produced by putting cowdung, sheep-dung, Birds dropping and green leaves in pits. This compost manure is much better than chemical fertilizers, but unfortunately the use of compost manure is becoming unpopular in our country. The number of farmers using compost manure is decreasing every day.

---

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

Processed seeds are being supplied to the farmers. They are also getting subsidy on fertilizers. However, no one has given full protection to the farmers of our country. Farmers are affected by floods on the one hand and severe droughts on the other. Therefore many farmers are in the jaws of debt. The farmers have to be rescued from this crisis. The farmer is born as a debtor, grows as a debtor and dies as a debtor. This is the miserable condition of the farmers in our country. It is like eating sweet pudding while taking loan and while paying back the loan instalments it is like breaking the backbone. Sarvajna says-

"Slavanu Kombaga Halogarundante
Saliganu Bandelevage Kibbadiya keelu Muridante"

At present the backbone of the farmer is being broken. This has to be avoided. The centre has to come forward to help the farmers. There should be new programmes to liberate the farmers from the clutches of debt. The eighth five year plan is before us. In this plan prominence should be given to irrigation and production of electricity. In my state there is no considerable increase in the generation of electricity for the last ten years.There is no increase in the area of irrigated land also. The electricity that is being produced in the thermal power plants and Hydro-power plants would be exhausted very shortly and I think we have to depend completely on solar Energy in future. This is inevitable because the population is increasing day by day and the problems of farmers are also increasing. Hence Scientific Research Centres and Training Centres have to be set up by the agricultural universities. Similarly agricultural training centres have to be set up at the Taluk and district level. The centre should provide financial assistance to set up these centres.

Agriculture should be made a compulsory subject in our educational institutions. Many students after their school education would lose interest regarding land, water, soil etc. Hence topics on agriculture must be included in the syllabus of our schools. Today the paradox is that some students imagine ragi plant as a tree, and coconut tree as a plant. Hence to avoid such ignominy we should make it a point to set up technical training centres through agricultural universities.

We can increase export of food-grains and earn valuable foreign exchange. Each farmer cannot take up this responsibility on his own. Hence Centre should take initiative in this direction and assist farmers in all possible ways to boost agricultural production. At the same time the Centre should see that middle men don't exploit the farmers. Marketing facilities should be available to

[Smt. Chandra Prabha Urs]

the growers of cotton, silk etc. Raw material should be readily available for processing. Storage facilities should also be there. Irrigation must be given priority. Agriculture is a vast field and many of my colleagues have expressed their views on the subject-matter.

Once we had imported wheat from America. This wheat brought parthenium to our country. So far these parthenium plants have not been destroyed completely despite various efforts by the people. The Govt. has not taken this matter seriously.These plants are not only health hazards but also harmful to crops. The Centre and states should see that this parthenium menace is checked completely.

Water is life. Hence every drop of water should be stored and utilised properly. Throughout the country bore-wells have been provided and the water level is going down. Therefore digging of tank is very essential to store and recharge water. Desalting and minor irrigation works should get priority.

At present we are importing oil seeds. I feel ashamed to talk about this import of oil seeds. Our land is fertile and most of our people are agriculturists. Why can't we grow sufficient quantity of oil seeds like sunflower seeds, groundnut seeds etc.

Our late lamented leader, Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister gave us the 20 Point programme. Unfortunately this programme has not been implemented in all the States. In my State this programme has enabled lakhs and lakhs of poor people. The tiller is the owner of the land. Houses should be constructed for poor people. Land reform measures adopted in Karnataka have achieved tremendous success. Sufficient financial assistance should be provided to States for proper implementation of national Rural Water Scheme.

Our late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had stressed the importance of public Distribution system and he wanted that all the poor people to get the benefit of it. Centre should provide sufficient funds to see that Public Distribution System reaches the remote villages. Our Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao also expressed the same view. I hope he would release funds generously for this purpose.

Jilla Parishads and Gram Panchayat should be made to work efficiently. There should be uniform, administration in Jilla Parishads and village panchayats. Overlappping should be avoided in IRDP, RLEGP, Nehru Rojgar Yojana and other programmes and they should be implemented strictly such that the rural poor can get the maximum benefit. Money should reach the poor directly. There should be no middlemen. Checks and counterchecks should be there to avoid misuse of money. Accountability is a must. Non plan expenditure should be reduced to a great extent.

I hope that the Centre and the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture would come to the rescue of farmers and help them in their ventures.

Sir, I thank you once again for permitting me to speak on this important subject and with these words I conclude my speech.

16.00 hrs.

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Mr. Chairman Sir, in this country many people have formed an opinion by reading newspapers and hearing speeches that we have more or less solved our agricultural problems. By that it is meant that the cereal shortages which took place in the 50s and early 60s have some how been overcome. Food has always been equated with cereal in India and no other kind of food or agriculture is given any importance. This is a mind-set attitude which has been developed from the very beginning of this country's strive for progress after independence.

It is very unfortunate that without understanding where the real potential of this country lay, the leaders of the country veered not only towards industry, but industry of a kind-heavy industry -where this country has come to a very miserable end. What we are seeing today-the balance of payment and serious economic crises-is perhaps due to the fact that we have never found the way this country should have striven for prosperity after independence.

Having had a colonial past and having thought that we were being exploited by the British, because we were producers of primary products-of course we were-we thought that we must get out of primary production and go in for industry and there lies the profit. So our primary production remained more or less stagnant. It has increased no doubt, but if you compare India's progress with that of other agriculturally advanced countries, even countries which have made advance during the last ten or fifteen years, we are very much backward in agriculture, just as much backward as we are in industry compared to the advanced western industrial countries.

Really speaking, I hear year after year the Ministers in this country boasting that our agricultural production has gone up to this level or that level, it is nothing compared to the potential which this country has. Not only we have the largest arable land in the world, not only we have the very large labour force, second only of course to China, but we have the best agricultural climate which China does not have. Most countries having a landmass which is nothing compared to India, particularly the western countries, can grow only one crop. We can grow three crops if we want to do so. Today's technology make it possible to do so. But we have not gone for that, just because our political leaders and economic leaders think that it is in industry that the country's salvation lies, their profit lies and it is through that path that a quick short-cut to prosperity can be achieved.

Even after forty years we have failed to do so. Even then it has not entered the heads of these people that we must look for another path. Even then they do not look around and see how rapid progress has been made by countries which depended on agriculture to lead them to prosperity.

Look at countries like Thailand, Turkey or even Israel. The miracle of bio-technology has made it now possible to reach a level of prosperity which can be really very quick. Three years or four years are enough time if we go in that path.

Sir, unfortunately nothing has been done first of all to propagate that attitude, that mind-set, that culture into the people. Whoever receives some education in this country will not go back to agriculture. In fact I sometimes think that education is becoming something of a hindrance towards the country's growth, instead of helping it.

No education is given whatsoever to the farmer's son, to the peasant's son so that he can do that father's trade, family trade, family occupation better. Nothing is done. Therefore, everybody wants to ultimately migrate to cities and become peons or clerks. Nobody thinks maybe except in Punjab and one or two other places where they have achieved prosperity already. Some amount of prosperity for a fairly large section of people has been achieved. Except in those States, nobody, who has received a little school education, would want to go back to agriculture as an occupation. This is disastrous for the country. The sooner the leaders of this cuntry wake up to this fact, sooner they apply their minds and understood the possibilities

[Sh. Amal Datta]

which lie today in agriculture through biotechnology, through proper preservation and conservation of soil and water-not only in agriculture but in many other fields of primary production-it would be better. nothing is known in this country.

I have been told that it is possible even today to get 1 million by piscicluture in one acre of land. I have not seen it myself but I have heard it. I have myself seen and I have got it done in my constituency that by growing vegetables, one can get even Rs. 1 lakh from one acre. It is possible. But unfortunately in my constituency, the land holdings are small. Nobody has get one acre on which to grow vegetables. They can grow in say one-tenth of an acre maximum. not more than that. But they are making good money. On one-tenth of an acre, they are making Rs.10,000 by growing vegetables for which they take only 120 days. Unfortunately this knowledge I myself have to carry to the people. Neither the Government's Agriculture Department nor the Extension workers-nobody-knows anything. Why is it so,? I have been going to the agricultural laboratories from 1982 onwards. I have myself seen that this was possible even then. I asked: What do you do with storage? Do you store it here? Do you not take it outside? Because I myself did not know before I went there that this was possible. But they said, "Our mandate is only to do research and development. We just send it to the Government. It is for the Government to do what they want." But the Government does not want to take it to the people. Why has the Agriculture Minister been so very callous about the development of agriculture in this country? Maybe there is a vested interest, I do not know. I do not always believe in the theory of vested interest in everything. But it seems to me that nothing has been explained why people in this country the peasants, the marginal farmers-have not been given the technology so that they can become prosperous.

It is not only just agriculture, just growing something in the farm by way of food. It is the total raw material for industry. You have cotton, jute, oilseeds. You have so things. Anything grown from the soil and then processed becomes industrial raw material. So many many things become processed food. Today, with three or four years' effort, Thailand is able to export processed food and vegetables to the tune of Rs. 40,000 crore. It is a small country having a small population. They can do it. Turkey can export ten times that more of processed food and vegetables. We cannot do it. Why can't we do it? Because our Government has never seriously applied itself to it, having had the eyes fixed always towards the industry and never understanding the potential which is today in agriculture, in all types of primary production.

I have seen with my own eyes a bull standing before a five-star hotel in Melbourne, Australia. I was surprised. It is only in the streets of Calcutta or Delhi one can see a bull roaming around like that. But not roaming about, it was standing there.

I was told that it had been held inside in auction. They were holding this auction inside the plushy carpeted rooms and lounges. Bulls are fetching a high price in auction. The price of the bull was half a million Australian dollars.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): you are objecting whenever he is referring about bulls.

SHRI AMAL DATTA:Sir, half a million dollars is the price of a bull. I was surprised and so I asked the agricultural experts in our country to tell me the reason.

The reason is again bio-technology because a bull can be used to produce lakhs which is now possible for the last five years only. It was not possible earlier. The female progeny will give milk to the tune of 100 liters per day. That is way it is possible. Now, where are we? If, in our villages, the cows produce five liters of milk per day, we are very happy. Nobody has heard of 100 liters of milk at all. We cannot produce even five liters as there is no fodder. The fields in our country are lying idle excepting growing one crop. You know that only 30 to 35 per cent of the fields in India are used for a second crop and the rest of the fields are lying idle throughout the year. Instead of growing fodder in such fields, what do, we do?We import fodder machines. I hope you remember that there was a big row in 1989 because fodder machines were imported by a big wig or at least, under his blessings. We do not know what had happened to that. I hope that the Agriculture Minister will enlighten us as to what happened to those mechanics.(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. There are many more Members to speak.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): The cock and bull story must end now.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Sir, I have gone into the bull story only. But my friend is inviting me to go into the cock story also.

What I am saying is that the Government of India and the leaders of the Government must wake up to the fact that it is possible. Agriculture provides a shorter route today with the application of bio-technology for which most of the knowledge is already available with us. We may have to get some knowledge from outside. The main thing is extension of that knowledge and make the mind of the people such that they turn towards agriculture and not turn away from it which is happening uptil now. So, this is what requires the immediate attention of the Government. I would request the Prime Minister and other Ministers of today to set right their policies which they were following till now and to go on the right path so far as this aspect is concerned. Here, We will not oppose if private enterprises will be brought in. Private enterprises does not mean big industrialists. Of course, private enterprises are already there. There are millions and millions of small farmers. Let their enterprises be given the knowledge and attitude of mind which are required for going towards prosperity-based agriculture.

Sir, the Finance Minister had announced that subsidy will be given to marginal and small farmers so far as fertiliser prices are concerned. It had been announced that Rs. 37 crores will be given for West Bengal. But the Paschim Bangla Pradeshi Krishik Sabha has calculated that the need if Rs. 60 crores. So, I appeal to the Finance Minister and the Agriculture Minister that Rs. 60 crores be given as subsidy for West Bengal this year.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA (Rampur): Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on agriculture. Agriculture is an important subject because 75% of the population of this country is rural and dependent on agriculture. I shall briefly touch upon the achievements in the agricultural sector in the past 44 years. This can be gauged from the fact that both India and China have the same area of cultivable land which comes to about 14 crore hectares. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the fact that China is producing 45 crore tonnes of foodgrain while India's production has been between 18-19 crore tonnes in the last 3-4 years. This means there are certain reasons as a result of which our production is low.

Sir, I would like to inform the House that

[Sh. Rajendra Kumar Sharma]

agriculture contribute 33%, industries 29% and other services 38% to the national income. The contribution of agriculture can be easily raised to 50% in the national income. The main reasons for low national income are the wrong polices and their faulty implementation by the Government. To increase the national income we must raise the contribution of agriculture in it to 50%

Sir, I would like the Agriculture Ministry to note that irrigation and fertilizers play a key role in increasing agricultural production.

Sir, so far as irrigation projects are concerned, out of all the projects planned in post independence period, about 246 big and medium projects were undertaken. At the end of these forty four years only sixty five projects have been completed and 2300 big dams have been constructed and 1800 dams are yet to be constructed.

Sir, the Members of the House would be surprised to know that even in this age of Science 70 percent of the water of these dam gets evaporated. In this modern age when other countries have been making efforts to find out a solution to it our country does not seem to be concerned at all. If attention is paid to all these factors our agriculture will develop and more and more area will be brought under irrigation.

Sir, fortunately our country has been blessed with great natural wealth. Underground water is also available in abundance and can be utilised best to encourage irrigation through tube wells in North India. The maximum credit of the achievement made in this regard so far, goes to the farmers. Electricity is the basic necessity to meet out irrigation requirement. I need not say much about the state of electricity throughout the country and particularly in North India and Uttar Pradesh which is the most backward state in the country. Therefore, my submission is that unless we increase the power geeration we cannot solve the problems baffeling us.

Mr. Chairman Sir, through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Agriculture that it is a matter of disadvantage for us to continue the projects in hand for a longer period, because the expenditure goes on increasing every year. The result is that the expenditure increases twice as compared to the initial cost. It creates a number of difficulties and the work of the project come to a standstill for a long period. In Uttar Pradesh, several projects have been lying incomplete due to the non-cooperation of the Central Government. These include Saryu river project, Drainage Composite Project, Sharda Sahayak (tributary) project, and Kanher irrigation project. In this connection, I would like to urge the hon. Minister of Agriculture that the Central Government should provide funds for these projects in time so that the projects are completed and the farmers get irrigation facilities and also the production of foodgrains in the country may increase.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would also like to submit that according to our experts at least 33 per cent of the total land should be covered by forests, however, due to the continuous denudation during the last 44 years, presently only 6 per cent of the total area is covered by forests. It is only agriculture which has been suffering. Soil erosion is on the increase and affecting the agriculture. I would like to submit to the hon, Minister of Agriculture that all these things are related to agriculture. Therefore, the Government should pay attention to it and take measures to encourage afforestation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Members of the House to a matter to which very few members have drawn our attention. But I consider it a very important issue. We are unfortunate that in Olympic games we fail to win even a bronze medal. What to talk of gold. What is the cause behind it? The reason is that 75 per cent of the population living in rural areas remain deprived of milk, 40 per cent of the rural children crave even for a drop of Milk other than their mothers' milk. In this August House, through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Agriculture that I would not like to go into the details of what the Government have done for the poor people so far and what they would do in future but I would submit that fortunately the cattle in rural areas of the country are taken care of like other members of the family. Therefore, we need not impart any training in animal husbandary, we need only to improve the breed. The cow which gives only 1 kg milk today can give 20 kg milk only if the Government take some initiative in this regard.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): How is it possible?

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Shri Acharia wants to know how is it possible. Has he no knowledge in this regard? The area to which Shri Acharia belongs is regarded as rich area from the point of view of fishery. Employment for crores of people can be generated by utilising the latest technology on the 7000 km long coastal area. Employment can be provided to crores of people. Government should make concrete efforts in this direction. Today, a cow in our country gives average 1 1/2 kg. to 2 kg. milk everyday whereas cows in foreign countries give 15-20 kg. milk on an average. In the countries like America, Germany etc. butter mountains are formed and when the production exceeds the limit they supply it at concessional rates to countries like ours. Those who have enough milk can get anything in ~~the~~ world. We make curd and ghee out of milk and have to import pulses through forging debt to get oils. Import of these things can be banned. The Government have not been providing medical facilities in rural areas. When there are no medical centres medicines cannot be provided. Now take the case of desert and hilly areas of out country. Australia rears up about 18 crore sheep. Every hon. Member submits that poor people are unemployed. I would like to know what the Government did during the last 44 years? Sheep rearing can be encouraged in these areas even today. I would enable to eradicate poverty and establish industries. We have been earning foreign exchange by exporting tea. Tea gardens better than in Assam can be developed in Garhwal, and though a survey has already been conducted, yet no action has been taken there on so far. Universities are being opened at various places but the experts and scientists engaged in research work should be directed to visit rural areas. Several Members have expressed their views in regard to fertilisers. The dual policy adopted by the Government have created a serious problem for the farmers. The fertiliser which was available to the small farmers at the rate of Rs. 115/- is now available at the rate of Rs. 165/- due to the dual policy of the Government. We are referring to small farmers. Unless he gets the membership of cooperative Society he would not be able to get fertiliser at cheaper rates. There is a large scale corruption in Cooperative Societies, it is injustice to the farmers. We oppose the dual price policy of fertilisers. An insurance scheme was introduced in Uttar Pradesh which was the only means for the farmers to protect their crops. But the Government have withdrawn the scheme. Insurance scheme was applicable to what the farmers used to save with the help of banks. But this scheme was withdrawn four years ago. Everybody has the facility of insuring his things to keep them protected and also to get the compensation of the loss he suffers. Similarly farmers should also be provided this facility. Sugarcane prices to the tune cooperatives, cooperations and of crores of rupees are outstanding against Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh. I would like to

[Sh. F ;endra Kumar Sharma]

submit that the Government should make efforts to help the farmers to recover their dues. The Central Government should provide assistance to State Government, if they lack resources. The Minister of Agriculture should review the dual fertiliser policy because all the hon. Members agree that this dual policy should be abolished.

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV (Bhagalpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, agriculture, fertilisers and rural development are related with one another. That is why the demands for grants of all the three concerned Ministries have been put together for discussion. I am a farmer and comes from a rural area. I am grateful that opportunity has been given to me to speak on the demands for grants. India is an agricultural country and about 75 per cent of the total population depend on agriculture is one way or the other.

Three fourth people in this country are either farmers or agricultural labourers. Until and unless the lot of the farmers is improved, how can we even imagine that the country would make any progress? Even after 44 years of independence, we have not been able to improve the economic condition of our farmers. It is because they have always been a neglected lot. During our childhood, much before independence, we had studied that 'Uttam Kheti, Mathyan van, Nishiddh Chakri, Bheekh Nidan' (Amongst vocations, agriculture is the best one followed by business. Service should be avoided and begging is the last resort. But today agriculture has been relegated to such a position that it is now in the third or even the fourth position. Because those doing physical labour and begging, at least, earn some money, but the farmers who have to hard along with their family members are today in a dplorable condition. I would like to relate you the situation in Bihar. The condition of an orderly or messenger in a Government office is better than that of a farmer, who owns ten bighas of land. Except for five or ten percent, ninety percent of those people who cultivate ten bighas of land have a maximum, annual crop production of 100 or 125 maunds. It means an earning of about Rs. 12,000, which includes among others things the cost of production also, which a peon or a messenger working in a Government Department gets a salary of Rs. 1,500-2,000 without any investment. Thus, you can see for yourself the condition of a farmer owning ten-bighas of land on the one hand and a peon on the other.

I am also a farmer and I would like to say only this much that the condition of farmers throughout the country is deteriorating. Today, if you look at a man doing business in clothes or anything else, in a small shop in any city, you will find that he is doing his work under the comfort of a fan, his children go to good schools and they get good food, but the farmer is not in a position to provide either good education, good clothing or even good food to his children. This is the condition of our farmers. The Government should ponder over some wayout to save them from this situation. Actually, the farmers have to resort to distress sale of their produces. Moreover, if he has cultivated with money taken on loan, he immediately disposes of his produce at throwaway prices to pay back his loan. The middlemen pocket a lot of money in the process. The Government should take suitable measures to that instead of the middlemen, the farmers themselves get the benefits.

Similarly, storage facility should be made available to farmers. In its absence, the farmers have to face a lot of problems. If the storage facility is there, he can keep his produce there, and sell it whenever he gets a remunerative price for it. You should provide such facilities. Similarly, all possible financial assistance should be extended to him so as to enable him to overcome all his debts. For this , it is necessary to make co-operative societies strong and effective. Further, irrigation facilities in the country should be expanded so as to enhance crop production. At present, only 30% of the total agricultural land has adequate irrigational facilities and the rest 70% of the land is cultivated without, any irrigation support. These farmers are at the mercy of rains. If there is rain, they can harvest and if not, there is brought and the consequences are very bad for the farmers. Therefore, priority should be given to expand irrigational facilities.

Thirdly, Government provides all kinds of assistance to rejuvenate sick industrial units, but if the crops at the farmers are destroyed or face a drought situation no assistance is provided. Therefore agriculture should be treated at par with industries and crop insurance schemes should be implemented effectively.

Today the disparities between the rural and urban areas is widening. The reason is that with the onset of major industries, the village handicrafts have been paralysed and people from villages are migrating to cities. Many people from Bihar work as labourers in Punjab and Haryana, because they get more money there. Therefore, cottage industries should be encouraged to check this migration. Animal husbandry is a major source of livelihood. The Government should pay attention to it. Under the minimum requirement programme for villages, there is a provision for pucca roads in all the villages and to link villages with a population of one thousand with main roads. Unfortunately, this programme is not being implemented properly. The State Governments do not have enough financial resources to spend on this, therefore, the Central Government should bear half at the expenditure.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government has adopted a dual policy on fertilizers. Fertilizer is an important import of agriculture. Earlier, the proposal was to cut the 40% subsidy on chemical fertilizers, but when it was opposed by one and all, the subsidy facility was restricted to small and marginal farmers and 30% subsidy on fertilizers was cut in case of big farmers. This will have a negative effect on agricultural production. The Government should abandon its dual policy. In this regard, I would like to say this much that this impractical dual policy would only decrease production. Further, when the Budget was presented arrangements were not made to persuade the traders to sell their stocks at pre-budget rates. Although come controls were put on small and medium businessmen, no such controls were put on small wholesalers, nor were then stocks checked. What does all this indicate?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Government only pretends to be socialist. Rather, this is a capitalist Government. Socialism has today given way to capitalism. Therefore, I oppose this Budget. I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[*English*]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): Sir, I stand to support the Grants for the Agriculture Ministry. I will be very brief, and only raise a few points.

The share of agriculture in the national income during 1950-51 was 60 per cent. In 1989-90 it was less than 30 per cent. More than 70 per cent of the population is involved in agriculture. The disparity in incomes of agricultural labour and non-farm worker which was 1:2 when India became independent has become 1:4. The share of agriculture in exports is reduced from 31 per cent to 16 per cent of the total exports. This only points to one direction that agriculture as an occupation has become non-remunerative. And something has to be done about that.

[Sh. Digvijay Singh]

Sir, it is said that where the prices of land has been increased, it is more economical to sell the land and deposit the money in a bank rather than to do agriculture on it. This situation has arisen in this country. This needs a very close look. In this context, the New Agricultural Policy should be framed. But unfortunately the Agricultural Policy which has been circulated to the States for consideration is totally inadequate.

Sir, to highlight the points, the agricultural productivity of each District in every climatic zone has to be seen. I would suggest that the Agriculture Ministry should collect information for each District, make agricultural productivity plan for each District make a data bank and then on the basis of that, you make your Agricultural Policy so that the productivity of the crop goes up.

The hon. Minister had intervened and rightly pointed out that we can produce more. The national average productivity on demonstrate plots is 2.5 times more than the national average. So, we have the potential. It has to be extended to the farmers who are at the lowest level. Extension is one of the most important parts of spreading the message. But today the extension is one of the weakest. We inherited the Israel concept of 'Training and Visiting' system, that is, T & V system. Initially we thought that it was a good programme. But we found that it has become 'Touch and Vanish' system and not Training and Visiting system. The village level worker would touch the farmer and varish. Now even the touching has been stopped and only 'V' remains, and the extension from the rural areas has been vanished totally. Sir, because of what I would urge upon the Minister to forget about the extension to the village level workers, make the contact of farmers strong, strengthen their organisation, select them and give them proper training and they would be your greatest messengers of higher technique to be involved in the farming.

These are the following few areas which if implemented in right earnest can improve the economic conditions in the rural sector:

- Efficient use of inputs;
- Integrated Agriculture;
- More exploitation of ground water and conservation of run off;
- Agriculture based industries in farmer cooperative sector so that the value added non agricultural produce go to the farmer;
- More incentive to agricultural exports;
- More work to rural landless unemployed;
- Employment Guarantee Scheme in the country;
- Minimum wages should be raised;
- Appropriate technology for rural artisan and cottage industry; and
- Development of sericulture.

16.43 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, the agricultural productivity of pulses remains what it was thirty years ago. Not much has been done. Gram is one of the most important pulses. The average yield of gram is still the same what it was thirty years ago.

Sir, the Million Well scheme of the Rural

Development Ministry is a good scheme. But on plateaus the water table is receding because of higher density of wells dug in those areas. So, there has to be a plan to recharge the water. You must come up with that.

About more use of manure, there was a great attention to manure in the earlier stages. But now after the fertilisers have come in, the compost kits which were essential in the first development plan been totally relegated to the background.

Sir, water shed management is essential for dry land farming. I am very happy to say that our Ministry has almost doubled of the funds for water shed management. But, Sir, the scheme for national water shed programme comes from the state to the Central Government for sanction and it takes a lot of time. Even the last year projects have not yet been cleared. That is why, I propose that there should be decentralisation in this; there should be some kind of a team, which is kept in the States so that the national water shed projects in each State could be cleared at that level. The cropping intensity has to be increased. Mini kits are being distributed on a large scale.

But it is being given away or sold in the market at times. I would suggest mini kits should be regulated only through the agricultural primary societies so that it reach the farmers.

The lab to land programme should be encouraged. More KVKs must be started in the areas so that the gulf between the Agricultural Universities and the farmers is bridged.

Again, the fertiliser subsidy has been restricted. I welcome the Government's proposal to exempt the small and marginal farmers from the rise in fertiliser prices. But, there should be no restriction on the total quantum of subsidy. For instance in a State like Madhya Pradesh, where we need Rs. 40 crores for this dual pricing system to be implemented, the allocation that has been given is Rs. 13 crores which will restrict the benefit to only one third of the small and marginal farmers. Therefore, this should be raised.

Then, I would like to say something about credit. It is unfortunate because of the loan waiver scheme the credit structure has become so weak in Madhya Pradesh that since last three seasons we have not been able to give agricultural credit to our farmers. So, more credit facilities should be made available.

The original drought animal variety of cattle has to be improved. I strongly urge the hon. minister to pay more attention to the Indian breed of chattels, more so in my constituency, there is Malwi breed of cattle which is one of the best breed of cattle for black cotton soil. There has to be a special development farm. Stock has to be conserved so that we have breeding stations for this breed.

My friends from the BJP side are very concerned about the cow slaughter. They only remember it when they are in Opposition. When they were in power, they never thought about it. In Uttar Pradesh, a very serious incident took place. Recently a incident took place in Bulandshahar. A Municipal Committee Gulaothi case of cow slaughter was brought to notice in which BJP members were invited. But no action was taken by the BJP Government in Uttar Pradesh. I personally believe that there should be a ban on cow slaughter. But the way these people have exploited, I strongly object to it.

I would like to say something about the prawn culture. I congratulate the Agricultural Ministry that they have started it in brackish

[Sh. Digvijay Singh]

water. But, in Madhya Pradesh we have prawn in fresh water also. We should examine this whether the prawns can be raised in fresh water also. In Balaghat also in the Wann Ganga we get prawns seven in fresh water.

The productivity of pisciculture has to be increased.

Then, I would like to raise a very important point about rural unemployment. In a number of districts, the migration of labour still takes place. It is very unfortunate that in a number of districts, migration is taking place. I would urge upon the Rural Development Ministry to start some kind of Employment Guarantee programme, which they have in Maharashtra for those areas where the migration of labour is taking place. The Jawahar Rozgar Yojna fund should be allocated more to those districts where the migration is taking place.

The approach of the IRD should be changed from individualistic financing it should be taken up as a project. Unfortunately, what is happening is that you are financing individuals for their work. But untill and unless you take up a project approach and take care of training, production and marketing, you will not be able to sustain and make it successful.

Lastly, I would like to say something about TRYSEM, which is one of the most important programme for the unemployed rural youth. in the annual report it has been mention and I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister page 30. One of the important areas of concern, it says: "In 78 per cent cases, TRYSEM beneficiaries were provided IRDP assistance for activities other than the activities for which they were trained under TRYSEM".

This means they are being trained for something and they are being financed for something else. This has happened all over the countryside. Therefore, I would urge the hon. Rural Development Minister to look into it.

The achievement of TRYSEM has also been very poor. It has been only 35.5 per cent in 1990-91 and 44 per cent in 1989-90. The congress election manifesto has promised to provide for ten million jobs in a year. This TRYSEM and IRDP could provide jobs in the rural areas provided we have the training facilities, we have the proper approach to do so. With this, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Sir, I want to raise a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, what is your point of order?

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, my point of order is that in the Agriculture Demands that have been circulated, there is some mistake in Demand No 4. The Revenue is shown as Rs. 222,09,00 and the Capital as Rs. 53,48,00. The total has been shown as Rs. 257,57,00. This is wrong. It should be Rs 275,57,00. I beg to submit that this should be rectified.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has brought that calculation to my notice in my chamber. The hon. Minister may look into it and if there is any mathematical mistake in calculating it, it should be corrected.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on this important subject.

Agriculture is India's mainstay as more than 70% of our population depends upon it for livelihood. The farmer who produces paddy from the soil is in miserable condition, even after 44 years of independence.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the need of the hour is to formulate a policy that will encourage agricultural production and provide remunerative prices to farmers. There was a time when our country used to import foodgrains, but our farmers took up the challenge and brought about a green revolution, so much so that today we are in a position to export foodgrains, but due to faulty policies, our farmers don't get remunerative prices.

Sir, many Hon. Members drew the Government's attention to this issue and gave many suggestions to improve the lot of the farmers, provide them remunerative prices and improve their economic condition, but less emphasis was given on an issue, which needs to be paid urgent attention.

Sir, there are two kinds of farmers; those who own the land and those who are landless, but till other's land. They are called agricultural labourers. The life of these people revolves around agriculture. Many scheme are formulated, loans are advanced, subsidies are provided to improve crop production, but the small farmers do not benefit much from it. We have been discussing the matter for the past 44 years, but their condition has not improved. There are more agricultural labourers in the villages, than the farmers. All the Government policies are directed towards improving the lot of the tarmers, not agricultural labourers. It is true that our former Prime Minister correctly observed that out of the one rupee kept for rural development, only 15 paise reach the farmer, the rest is pocketed by corrupt officials and middlemen, but unfortunately, no effort has been made so far to improve the lot of the agricultural labourers, who are solely dependent on agriculture for their livelihood. Because the farmers don't get remunerative prices, they are not able to do justice to these labourers. Both the farmers and agricultural labourers are heavily dependent on each other and if the condition of the farmers improve, it would automatically improve the lot of agricultural labourers as well.

Due to this, the development of villages have come to a standstill, Seventy per cent of our population lives in villages and as such we cannot dream of development of the country if the development of villages is impeded. The need of the hour is to improve the standard of living of the farmers. We should work in the direction of encouraging agriculture, by providing the farmers subsidy so that their all round development could be ensured. In addition to this we should also improve the economic condition of agricultural labourers. The system should be streamlined by giving more and more emphasis on agriculture to enable the agricultural labourers and farmers to get justice. The need of the hour is to pay attention to the villages since our entire economy is based on this sector.

MR. SPEAKER: Ten hours were allocated for this discussion but nearly eighteen hours have already been taken discussing this subject. About 60-70 Members have participated in the discussion. When the Hon. Members have discussed this matter for 18 long hours they would certainly like to hear an hour long reply to it. My problem is that I cannot give time to Members any further. I would request the Hon. Minister to reply to the debate.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you and all the Hon. Members who made every effort to give constructive and useful suggestions during the course of eighteen hour discussion on these demands. From these submission many novel ideas have emerged and some fruitful work will be done.

Sir, the Hon. Members expressed their views on a subject which concerns the lives

[Sh. Bal Ram Jakhar]

of people from all walks of life. No part of the country is alien to agriculture. You as well as this House have expressed several times their gratitude towards the farmers who have made this country self-reliant. Thanks to their hard work, the country is placed in a comfortable position on the food front.

After having expressed this gratitude, I would like to say that 70 Hon. Members have spoken on this subject in the course of debate. I think there is no need to mention their names as it would take ten minutes. I have got the entire list with me and I have analysed the views expressed by the Members. I am aware of every minute details given by Members in this regard.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): You reply to the Cut Motions also along with this.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We shall do it together. Now that we are taking up all points together, let us take up the Cut Motions also along with it. In view of this, I hope that the Hon. Members will consider my request and will withdraw their Cut Motions.

The foremost issue pertains to Agriculture Policy. Everyone has, without exception, emphasized the need for carrying out a detailed deliberation on this subject. Our friends, Hon. Members and the former Prime Minister Shri. V.P. Singh also touched upon this subject and laid emphasis on the necessity of having an Agricultural Policy. Agriculture should be regulated in such a manner that the farmers are economically uplifted and they can earn their bread and butter without any bitterness among themselves and a without nursing a feeling of discrimination. It is true that some of them may be well off and other may be poor. Human beings change according to the changing times. The policies also undergo change according to prevailing circumstances. I do not admit that we did not have agricultural policy in the past. It was never so because no Government can function without a policy. Yes, it is a fact that it was not comprehensive and there lies the fault. But it is not true that the agricultural policy was non-existent. The veterans of our freedom struggle who played a vital role in giving us independence advocated an agricultural policy for the country.

[*English*]

I want to take you to 37 years back when Pandit Nehru spoke in the Rajya Sabha. Speaking in the other House 37 years ago, Jawaharlalji said:

> "We certainly attach importance to industry; but in the present context we attach far greater importance to agriculture and food and matters pertaining to agriculture. If our agricultural foundation is not strong, then the industry we seek to build will not have a strong basis either. Apart from that, the situation in the country today is such that if our food frong cracks up, everything else will crack up too. Therefore, we dare not weaken food front our If our agriculture becomes strongly entrenched as we hope it will, then it will be relatively easy for us to proress more rapidly on industrial front..." whereas if we concentrate only on industrial development and leave agriculture in a weak condition, we shall ultimately be weakening industry. That is why my primary attention has been given to agriculture and food and that, I think, is essential in a country like India, at the present moment."

[*Translation*]

Think for a moment about the situation in the country that prevailed immediately after partition. We had a population of 38 crores and we had to import lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains under PL-480 to feed our people. Owing to the hard work of our farmers and scientists and as a consequences to our policies we have become self sufficient in foodgrains. Not only this, we have also decided to export 5 lakh tonnes of rice and 10 lakh tonnes of wheat this year. In addition to this, we have exported 5 lakh tonnes of sugar and the country is having a buffer stock of nineteen million tonnes of foodgrains. The credit for this magnificent achievement goes to the farmers for their excellent achievement in this field and for this I commend them and express my gratitude towards them. But at the same time, we should not forget to give a practical shape to agricultural policy.

Just now, Hon. Shri. V.P. Singh pointed out that he should be given assurance in respect of agricultural policy but at the outset I would request him with due apologies to tell me that why did not be implement the policy despite the fact that it was formulated during his Prime Ministership. I have seen the policy in the files and he had ample time to go ahead with it. He could have also done those things for which he is demanding assurance now. However, it will be my endeavour to fulfil this demand.

AN HON. MEMBER: You could not do it in forty years.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: No, whatever has been done is before all of us. As regards our contribution, I want to say that if we had remained inactive, we would not have attained all these achievements and would not have become self sufficient. They may be having some limitations which prevented them from implementing it.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): The entire draft of agricultural policy was formulated and an interaction with Sharad Joshi Standing Committees was going on. This can be confirmed from the relevant documents. It is not that we lacked the will to work, our Government did not last long...

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I have said this on the basis of documents. I am not contradicting it. I am saying that i have no objection to his demanding assurance from me.

We have recently sent it to the States and we have called for suggestions from all State Governments. We have also sent it to a newly constituted committee and when it is returned we will prepare the draft and place it before the Cabinet after consulting all of you, because it should be done in a spirit of cooperation because it concerns all of us. Our objective is the same although our approach to achieve that objective may be different. The objective is to do welfare irrespective of party affiliations. The roads leading to this solemn goal may be different and we can walk on the same path after due consultations among ourselves. There is neither any cause of concern nor any dispute in this. We will do that and I want to assure you of a contractive and meaningful policy and creation of an infrastructure on which we can move forward.

Now, I would also like to take up the issue which was raised at number two importance wise and would like to make a few submissions about it, i.e. fertilizer and subsidy. We all share the view that the interest of the farmer should be safeguarded. In this context I would like to point out that when I used chemical fertilizer in my field for the first time the villagers complained to my mother that I was destroying the field. They asked my mother not to allow me to use fertiliser as it would ruin the field. Thereafter everyone started using fertilizer and then on the entire agricultural programme was run on a new line. This is something to be noted. I know the agricultural importance of fartilizers. Without using it we cannot expect a better crop and if there is no production, how can we fill our godowns. The stock of foodgrains depends much on the crop. They have said it must not be done. All right, the farmers' interests must be safeguarded. But we should consider another aspect of this as well. I am a farmer myself and so I know well that the ensuring Rabi Crop would require a good quantity of fartilizers. I can meet the present demand of fertilizers but I would not be able to meet the future demands. I have to keep all these things in mind.

All of us sitting here are well acquainted with the history. We know how independ-

[Sh. Bal Ram Jakhar]

ence has been attained. We know how our countrymen dedicated their lives and how boldly laid down their lives. If we have no consideration for all these sacrifices and if we fail to retain this hard-won freedom, it would be quite unjust. So we will have to make little sacrifice in view of the sacrifices made by our contrymen. Keeping in mind that point we decided to adopt this duel policy about which it is being said that it will not succeed. So far as this policy is concerned, there may be some difficulties. Every thing has two aspects-negative and positive. Sometimes positive aspect ensures progress and sometimes the negative does so. If we think on both the aspects, only then we find whether it has proved beneficial or not. I have got statistics with me and I think all of us might be having these figures. There are 76 per cent small and marginal farmers in the country. Certainly, some extra attention must be paid to them. At the same time we should keep this fact in mind that there are many among them who have only one to one and a half acres of land and who are not able to produce much. How can they manage if they too have to purchase fertilisers for their use. So we thought that their interests should be safeguarded. It may be that there is hundred per cent irrigation in 17.5 acres of land so the ceiling can be imposed on those who have more than 5 acres of land. There may be one or two buffalo somewhere but on that basis it cannot be said that one is big and the other is small and that such and such farmer must be given benefit and such and such farmer must not be given any benefit. They have worked for the country and made the country self-reliant. As prizes and are trophies given to the industrialist for his commendable production, what harm is there if a farmer is honoured for his commendable produce. So we thought that if nothing was given to farmer, it would not be justified. Therefore, a 30 per cent exemption was given to him. It would prove doubly beneficial. He would sow oilseed and pulses without spending extra money. When he would sell his produce, he will benefit from this policy. The Hon. Minister of Finance has assured to safeguard their interests at any cost. Their pockets would not be allowed to be robbed. We shall have to face all this burden together as they are the back-bone of our country.

I would like to bring one thing more to the notice of this House. Paswanji, please take your seat, without you we were not enjoing much. I would like to make an appeal to all of you not to think that all the policies would fail. Why have we become so pessimistic. What do we all do and what does our party do? What do our workers in each village do. What do our workers in each village do. We come here from villages and cities and we represent village and cities. Every party has some foot-hold in villages and cities. Because of their existence we are able to come here. Can our men not distinguish between big and small farmers? If everything is in order, as it ought to be and as I am proud of you, then why should not we come forward and work collectively. Whatever we have got this time, we should share it equally. Next year if everything goes smoothly by the grace of God, we would be in a better position...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur): I would like to submit to the Hon. Minister that when the small and marginal farmers go to coperatives, they do not get fertilisers. They are compelled to purchase the same from the open market at high prices...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: This is what I am submitting. I do not have any machinery of my own. I have means and whatever means I have is of the Government. We can safeguard the interests of poor farmers who constitute 75-76 per cent of the total population in the country, if the workers of their party and my party do something jointly for them. We should not just show our helpness and incapability by saying that nothing can be done for them...(*Interruptions*) We have got thinking capacity. Those farmers who have more than five acres of land also need not worry. I am going to compensate them today itself, rather this very moment and give something more to them with that compensation. I shall also try my best to make up their losses they have suffered on account of inflation...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): While speaking on the Demands for Grants, the Hon. Minister has said that he wants to give benefits to the small and marginal farmers who constitute 70 per cent population of the country. Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that since mutation of names in land-records has not been done in villages, 8 or more acres of land is in land-records in the name of senior member while in reality the farmer gets only one acre of land in his share due to division of land among the members of the family? How would the Government identify the small and marginal farmer in such circumstances? Would it take positive steps in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not do so. The Hon. Minister is replying in one hour to the debate that lasted for 18 long hours. If you put questions like this, then he cannot cover all these things and many important points may remain untouched.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is why I request you all to extend your co-operation at this critical hour the country is passing. I hope our economic condition will be on sound footing in a period of one and a half years. We should try our best to achieve this target. This is not a joke. It is practicable and for making the country self-reliant we will have to make sincere efforts. This is what I am submitting it before the House.

[*English*]

Irrespective of the party affiliation, irrespective of any ideological differences, we must try to do something which is positive in the interests of the nation and of the weaker sections of the society as a whole.

[*Translation*]

I want to say only this that this time limit is not binding on us.

[*English*]

There is nothing as consistent as change.

[*Translation*]

Change is inevitable. We have brought about a change in our economic policy with the result many families have changed. The world has changed, the ways and norms of many countries have changed. So it is not much significant, we can also change it.

[*English*]

It is not static.

[*Translation*]

And what is static gives a stinking smell. (*Interruptions*)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow. Not like this please. This cannot be allowed. Mr. Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, it is improper on your part. It is nct correct.

(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I need your help. I know your difficulties. There are difficulties. I do not shut my eyes. I know the complications and difficulties.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not necessary for the Hon. Minister to reply to the interruptions.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. BALRAM JAKHAR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, secondly, many hon. Members have submitted that there should be 50 per cent allocation for agriculture. The

---

*Not recorded.

[Sh. Bal Ram Jakhar]

Government is ready to take all possible steps for the development of this sector. But it would not be a correct approach if all the money of the budget is allocated to the Agriculture department alone and it is not possible. Agriculture sector is very large. I have statistics with me. In the year 1990-91 a sum of Rs. 39,239 crore was spent on all the concerned sectors and in 1991-92 Rs. 42,969 crore have been allocated for the same, which is 9 per cent more in comparison to the previous year. Besides this, there are also other departments like electricity, water, irrigation, roads, public-health etc. which are inter-related with agriculture sector. If we take all these together, then the allocation comes out to 50 per cent. But if 50 per cent fund is allocated to my Ministry alone, as some of the hon. members want, then what the other ministries would get. We are required to make joint efforts. Only then we can achieve something. As the Minister of Rural Development was saying that roads are needed. That is right. Where there are transport facilities, progress is achieved rapidly and where there are no transport facilities, progress cannot be achieved. For want of roads people have to lead a life as they lead in the seventh century.

SHRI DAV DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Rajasthan lacks road facilities most.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I hundred per cent agree with the hon. Member. I have already requested the Minister of Surface Transport, Shri Jagdish Tytler to complete at least four national high-ways. For the remaining roads the State Governments would make efforts. Facilities of drinking water and roads are two basic requirements. And today even 44 years after independence we do not have drinking water there. We feel ashamed when we hear it. I had discussed this problem with the Prime Minister also who stated in this House also that Balramji says there is no drinking water. This is fact. When we go to villages to seek votes, the old women come to us and say that they want nothing but drinking water. This hurts our soul, we feel extremely aggrieved. Despite all our efforts, level of water goes down. Even hand-pump as well as other pumps are of no use as water dries up. This is all nature's fury. Nature has its own course. So, we need to protect our environment first. Though this is not my subject here. I would like to request the hon. Members of this House that unless we protect our environment, our condition would not improve. The mother who does not get good treatment cannot look after her children well. We should love nature. Wherever we go, we should encourage the people to plant more and more trees. In the capacity of a farmer, a citizen and a servant I request you all to plant at least few trees even at the place where you take bath. That will revolutionise the whole concept. The villagers should be educated in this regard. In Rajasthan I visited such places where women, who came to greet me, opposed the cutting down of trees and when they opposed their hands were chopped off. It has happened. Such consciousness may be aroused in every village.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, our aim is to lay stress on 50% resources. I am not satisfied with it. Why should this 76 per cent people depend on 50 per cent resources? All of us must work together in this direction. Today, industry and agriculture must go together, as the progress is needed in both the sectors. Both are inter-dependent. I do not want to create a gap, like terming one as urbanite and other as rural. Actually, both are brothers. If the farmers have money, the cities will prosper. If the purchasing power of villagers increases, he will listen radio purchase cloth, Motorcycle and purchase radio sets costing Rs.100-200. If he does not have money, what will he do? How can he purchase all these items. Actually, we should enhance his purchasisng power, otherwise it will be of no use. Several hon. Members are of the opinion that agriculture must be given the status of industry. When I talked to Shri Rajiv Gandhi in this regard, he had given us the last package. At that time, I used to be the Speaker of Lok Sabha. I took keen interest in the matter. I had said that the prosperity of peasantry means the prosperity of self-reliance. He had also laid the foundation of industry. But industry alone cannot do anything. Agriculture must be given all encouragement as that of the industry. He had created the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. It is still in the process of making. This is of course, a question as to why we could not give a serious thought to it earlier. The foremost question was how to provide food to the hungry and not to beg it from other countries, which undermines our selfrespect. That is why we want to bring agriculture and industry under one policy. We should ensure that farmers are not subjected to the control of inspectors. I want to ponder over the matter as to how agriculture could be given the status of industry. We should ensure that profits of industry should be made available to agriculture. In other words, agriculture should not be allowed to suffer. That should be the approach. Mr. Devegowda and many of our other friends gave very valuable suggestions. All the savings in Banks come from villagers only. Funds are mobilised from small farmers and labourers. It is their money which finances the industries. When I was a Minister in Punjab I very often said that contribution of the rural sector to Bank deposit was very high. But we do not get bank credit equal to 15 per cent of our total deposits, though we deserve 25-30 per cent returns. My plea is that the money we deposit must be invested on rural development. Let us give it a fillip. I want to invest funds in villages. Funds should help grow vegetables and fruits. Another way is that we must develop a specific technology for each district. There was a proposal to set up 'Krishi Vigyan Kendras'. This is very much right. The more we expand them, the more we gain. I will narrate my personal experience. When I left the college I established my contacts with the Agriculture University. I had an opportunity to come in contact with its extension service. They set up a demonstration farm in our farm and showed us how to do it practically. This brought about a revolution in our agriculture and changed our concept and thinking. I had given half of the land that my father had, to the share croppers and I had given it free of cost. I spent thirty times more than what people normally spend on the land that I had in my personal possession. I was a forerunner. I had grown grapes and that too where grapes are not grown. I raised an orchard in the land which was uneven having 10 feet high hillocks. All this could be possible due to our latest technology. It has large potential. It will yield high dividends if proper coordination is effected in its application.

[*English*]

Seeing is believing.

[*Translation*]

One cannot believe without seeing with his own eyes. On seeing one has to believe things which he hithersofore considered impossible.

I have been to Bihar a number of times. I have attachement with Bihar. Whichever be the Government, I have championed the cause of the State. Mr. Paswan, as you are aware, it is a large State. There is abundant water in the State. Still the people experience shortage of electricity and irrigation facilities and agriculture suffers. I can throw a challenge in this regard. Allott 500 acres of land to me. I will raise a farm on the land and within five years I will bring about complete transformation making it comparable to any farm in Punjab. Actually, there is nothing impossible in it.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): He may be made the Chief Minister of Bihar.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I feel hurt. This is a very serious issue. Actually I see things in the proper perspective. The examples of Haryana, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh and the Kangra region are glaring ones. These areas experienced grain deficit of 33,000 tonnes. Now, Punjab and Haryana contribute 65 per cent foodgrains to country's buffer stock. This is because they made progress like anything. The States of Orissa, Bihar,

[Sh. Bal Ram Jakhar]

West Bengal and Eastern U.P. can also make progress like this.

[*English*]

All these areas, they can be transformed like anything. It is only a question of will; it is only a question of dedication; it is only a question of imparting knowledge to people.

It is only a question of whether we can do something for them. I can tell you that we can do it. Nothing can deter me; nothing can deter my farmers. Once you show them, then, they can do it. Before the House, I take you into my refuse, as my helpers, as my guides, as my supporters and then we do something for them.

I will call a meeting of all the Ministers of Agriculture. I will call those Ministers here. Please help me. Let us give them whatever they want, for their States.

[*Translation*]

The Chief Minister of Manipur came to me yesterday and was asking for opening a university there. I assured him to work for him. When the Arunachal Chief Minister approached me, I assured him too to extend help and I told him that I would bring about an over-all change there. It does not behove of us to discuss these trtles, we must discuss certain important matters. There should be something novel. (Int*erruptions*) I would fulfil my commitments to realise the dreams of my life. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): What were they doing during the last 40 years ?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Let bygones be bygones. There is no use of clamouring for the past events. This is not so, policies are there.

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA: More than one Agricultural University is not allowed in a State. You should allow two or three universities.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Let us start first. One step first, then next one and then to the top; not all at once.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: We have only one University for the last 50 years. We want another.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: There was a reference to Vigyan Kendras. The coat is stitched according to length of the cloth. If the length of cloth is three metres only, my suit cannot be stitched, it can be stitched only if three and a half metre length is available. At the opportune time I will take it up. I am demanding necessary funds from the plan-makers.

[*English*]

There is only one kind. I will start it. In the next coming years, I want to saturate this whole country, with one University in each district.

[*Translation*]

I would also like that they should have a direct link so that extension services may function. They must go and meet the people there and show them what we can do.

A reference was made that there should be freedom of selling agriculture products. There is no obstacle, if there is any such obstacle, please point out it to me, I will remove it. We provided support price because we had money at that time. Had we not paid support price in 1966, 67 and 1968, there would have been a crash-down. This may happen even today that if we do not buy them. The traders would sell them at the rate of two or two hundred and fifty, while he would get it at the rate of one hundred and seventy five. It is good if everyone except one or two is able to get a little more because they have worked hard.

The other issue is concerned with horticulture. It is a very nice department, something ought to be done for this. We have constituted a Horticulture Board, the university is developing new varieties, but new thinking, new plant breeds, new plantation are needed. I went to Himachal Pradesh recently. I visited orchards there and I visited orchards in foreign countries also where there were several varieties of apple. We grow here only 3 to 4 tonnes whereas the foreign countries grow 20 to 30 tonnes. What a great difference between them and us! How can we make progress. We have to bring about a change here. We would have to provide plant materials. We would have to grow new plants by developing tissue culture. We have recently visited Research Center of I.C.A.R., Pusa and also visited such institute in Tokyo. The tissue culture work is done there in a small room in a four-storeyed building from where they are supplying it to whole world but we have nothing here in comparison to them. It is less than a drop in the ocean. We shall have to work for it and bring about a change in this direction. Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon gave a call to grow grapes. We called for two lakh grape-grafts from California which is known as purple variety. Today there is no taker in Haryana. It is easier to create a market but it is very difficult to sell the produce. In Punjabi it is said:

"Surma pana bada Saukha hai,
per chamkana bada aukha hai".

It is very easy to apply collyrium in the eyes, but to bring forth a shine is a matter of art. We have to find out the ways and means through which we can produce good quality of grains in larger quantities.

[*English*]

It can stand transport and then it is a whole thing which comprises so many things. It needs post-harvest technology, which means packaging, grading, forwarding, pre-cooling, transportation, refrigeration and then good quality for export purposes.

[*Translation*]

Trains as well as aircraft are required for it. We have neither trucks nor refrigerated container vans. What can we do for the things which are grown here and not in the South? We cannot bring those things here, which are grown in the South. What is the advantage of it? Farmers do not get proper price of their produce there and the consumers do not get the required commodities here on reasonable prices. Tomatoes, which are abundantly grown there, are sold here @ of Rs. 25/- per Kg. Why should not we produce such things here itself, which not bring here from distant places. It requires a time bound programme. I want to call for a meeting with the colleagues of my Ministry including the Ministries of Transport, Food Processing, Package Processing, Rural Development in this regard so as to lay a foundation stone for better result in the coming days.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Jalgaon and Bhusaval bananas are grown in abundance which not there. I arranged discussion many a times. I had gone to Nagpur some days back. Some orange growers called on me with the grievance that they did not have trucks. They offered me to take away as many oranges as I could because it was very costly to send them to Delhi. it is, therefore, rightly said about the farmers that he is always a loser whether he grows more or less. I will like to assure them that ways would be found for their marketing. We will have to make efforts. I want to work hard to bring about a change in their condition. But in order to bring about the change collective efforts have to made.

A number of farmers had come here for drip irrigation and sprinkle irrigation. Take Rajasthan for example. little water is found there. Water table is going down day by day. Shortage of water is increasing continuously because there are no rains. It is thus clear that we should use it economically. We should work hard for achieving better results. Drip

[Sh. Bal Ram Jakhar]

irrigation can irrigate three acres of land while normal irrigation can feed one acre of land. How much difference does it make? Of course, it is costly but money which is spent on it, is recovered very soon, say within 1 1/2 years.

[*English*]

It is a very valid investment. I want to pursue this policy. I have written to the Finance Ministry. I think, we can have Rs. 50 crore this year for subsidizing this project for the farmers. Please let them know that there is something; you can do it. That is how I want to go ahead for the sprinklers.

[*Translation*]

All the schemes which are based on agriculture...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): This is no answer to my question. Instead you are posing new questions...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I AM Replying to your questions only. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: You alone have not asked the questions, there are many others too who have put questions and he is answering them also.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the Hon. Members that these are the questions which they have asked. I have not raised any question. I have noted each and every question put by them and I am answering them accordingly. If you like, you can see. Your answer too, may appear...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: No, we did not get proper answer to our questions...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing this.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, please.

[*Translation*]

Do not speak like that. He is not answering your question but he is replying to all the questions put by the others also.

[*English*]

You are wasting the time.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: I am not seeking answers to my questions. I am pointing out that the Hon. Minister is himself posing questions...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Now I come to production of shrimps. He spoke of producing shrimps in brachkish water as well as in other waters. We are trying to produce more and more . He is talking of producing 2000 K.G. per acre where it is produced in less quantity. I am answering all the points that that he has raised. You asked about Agro-Science, oil-seeds and pulses, I had not raised these issues. Vishwanathjee had just mentioned that there had not been any improvement in production of wheat and other grains. There has been improvement not only in rice and wheat but also in maize and Jwar. I am referring to oil-seeds. Two years ago, its production was 10.7 million tonnes but this year it is 19.1 million tonnes.

[*English*]

We produced 19.1 million tonnes or something like that.

[*Translation*]

I would like to say that new

experiments...(*Interruptions*) Agriculture or agriculture policy is being treated as a matter of joke. I am much distressed for that. I am giving my reply with due concentration. If you don't want to listen, I would stop. I have no objection. I am telling you about the steps we are taking and the steps we propose to take. Very recently, I had gone to Kanpur and there I saw the experiment on seeds and pulses. The pulses production has reached 13 million tonnes and we need one million tonnes more. Dry land farming is needed for this. A lot of research is going on as to which paddy, pulses and oilseed can be produced through dry farming, because we want to become self-reliant in this field. We made export of oil seeds worth about Rs. 1000 crores and imported oil worth Rs. 107 crores. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: In Rajasthan, the Central Government is supplying substandard seeds. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Had substandard seeds been supplied, the production would not have reached 19 million tones from 12 million tonnes. I am going to modernize the seed corporation. We have to see how we can produce quality seeds. Otherwise, the production will not be good. It is the basic ingredient.

Several Hon. Members made a mention of the crop insurance scheme. In this connection, I have already replied that day that it is difficult, because I have not received any good draft as yet. I am pondering over it for last 15 years, but could not do anything. In Gujarat, while the Government received insurance money of Rs. 94 crores, the demand for insurance was Rs. 700 crore. Then who will subsidise and how to subsidise? That day also I made an appeal to all the Hon. Members to give me some suggestions through which we can prepare a basic scheme in this regard. So that the farmers could be benefited. I would again like to repeat the point, which has struck to my mind, we provide calamity relief fund to the States on the basis of the report of the Finance Commission. I propose that another calamity relief fund should be constituted in every state contribution to which should be made by the farmers, the state concerned and the Central Government. I am saying this on my own I have not yet taken any initiative in this regard. I am telling it to the august House. If any of the Hon. Members could think of any such draft, please let me know. Because such things do not happen every year and everywhere. This happens only sometimes.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA (Dhanduka): Hon. Minister, I had asked that question about Gujarat. I only want an assurance from you that whatever is due to be paid to Gujarat should be paid immediately. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Don't worry. Please listen to me first. I am saying after taking everything into account.(*Interruptions*) Besides this, as regards the policy to be adopted in tribal areas, it was said that shifting cultivation should be done in those areas. Some steps were taken but we have not been very successful in this regard. Some people came to me today and they were asking me to visit their areas. They wanted me to see as to how they do cultivation, how they are applying fertilizer and now the land can be made cultivable by raising terraces. I want to take steps in both the cases.

SHRI KARIYA MUNDA (Khunti): Hon. Minister, there is no need of fertilizer in shifting cultivation. It is done in the forests. There is a need to clean the area and the seeds should be of good quality (Inter*ruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: But it destroys the forests. We do not want it to happen at all. It is disadvantageous. I am talking of how to set it, right by going there and seeing the things to myself, but you are saying something else. (*Interruptions*) It is a very simple thing.(*Interruptions*)

The most important thing that Shri V.P. Singh raised here has also been said by me earlier. It pertains to waiving loans of Farm-

[Sh. Bal Ram Jakhar]

ers and relieving them of the loan burden. It was a wrong policy. I am not saying that the basic ideas was wrong. I only say that the policy was wrong. I will explain it in details. I have understood his view point and I can say that the disease aggravated with each dose of medicine. Their medicine was of no use. How many people have been administered this medicine? It may be one lakh, two lakhs or one crore, but what about the remaining 50 crore people? (Interrupt*ions*)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: At least, some farmers were benefited. Secondly, the Government formed a habit of waiving the loans of the farmers, which was not there earlier. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Now you are doing a wrong thing. Please listen to me first.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Till now, the loans of only the rich and the industrialists were being waived. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Let me also say something. Why are you doing wrong a thing? I don't want to form a wrong habit. I dont' want to disintegrate the country. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA (Shajapur): If you have the courage, declare agriculture as an industry. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: You have not listened to my argument. First of all, you may please listen to me. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want that the august House should first listen to me. You must listen to me first, I am crippled...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: You should stop providing subsidy to the industrialists. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I want that you should fully listen to me first. Everyone has the courage to say, but one should have the courage to hear also. I will tell you and will prove it also. It will prove beyond any reasonable doubt that it was not correct. (*Interruptions*) I am not contradicting anyone. I want to say my point and you can also present your views.

SHRI KALKA DAS: You are responsible for the picture you have presented here. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Please listen to me whatever I am saying. I listened to you for last 18 hours. Can't you listen to me? I want to say that there should be a basic policy? Your policy was wrong in this regard...(In*terruptions*)...

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the basic thing is that I would have saluted that policy, had it benefited the farmers. I also know that the farmers should be made debt free. But what is the wayout for this? (Interruptions) I want that we should talk in proper manner. This has blocked the canal which used to supply water to the fields. We used to give loans upto Rs. 5,700 crores, but it was reduced to Rs. 3,000 crores only. Where did it go and whom it was given? I would ask whether Shri. V.P. Singh did not see it? I agree that according to their own accounts, they have done a good thing -

> "Khud hi thaili me jo ho makrooz,
> wah rehbare karwan nahi hota."

Did you understand or not? It is very simple that one thing that I have thought, can not be always right. It can be wrong also. If a doctor's diagnosis is wrong and he gives wrong medicine, the person will die also. I would like to say that this money could have been given to the farmers in other ways also. (*Interruptions*) If by giving a loan of Rs. 2,000, Rs. 5,000, or Rs. 10,000 to a farmer we can solve all his problems for his entire life, I would have welcomed the scheme. But how many persons have been provided that benefit. Now the scheme has been withdrawn. People have become bank defaulters and Banks are not advancing any loans to them. It sets a bad precedent. People taking loans later demand that their loans should also be waived? Our party members also are in favour of waiving loans but I told them that it was wrong practice. I did not recommend the cases of my favoured few. They had also said that we too should waive the loans, but I always oppose a policy which is wrong. I cannot support such a measure. You are free to say that this should be done. Well, you can waive their loans, but it should be done in such a way that they do not become dependent on it. If you do it in way I suggest, their health will remain good meaning theirby that they will not depend on Government doles. I do not want to give them a dose so as to make them stand on crutches. No, I cannot do that. I want to give the farmers self-respect. I want to protect their honour, but in some other way...(*Interruptions*)

Please listen to me. I have listened to your viewpoint, you also listen to my argument. I want that all of us should work for the betterment of the farmers, but it should be a united effort so that they get adequate water for irrigation, reap a rich harvest and get income from their crops as a regular feature every year.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have collected the figures relating to the farmers whose loans have been waived, three-fourth of them are habitual defaulters. But the poor fellows who were the good repay masters got nothing. I have the figures with me. I have no malice towards anyone. I am not obssessed with any pre-conceived notion. All that I want is that this money should be used for linking each and every village by roads. Let me make it very clear that our effort is to make the farmers self-relient and not give them crutches. (*Interruptions*) I do not want to make them captives, I want to see them self-dependent. I want to give them liberty and their rightful dues. Right now, there is a mad scramble for getting the loans waived. Our farmer says that since the other fellow has got the benefit of loan waiving, why not he. When his neighbour can make merry on Government money, why not he? We do not want to encourage dishonesty on the part of the farmers.

You have raised querries about fertilizer, which I forgot to touch upon. You said that the factory owners were charging 12 per cent more. Let me say that you have been our colleague for three decades. You have been an equal partner in our good achievements as well as misdeeds. You have been Chief Minister, you have been the Union Finance Minister also. You are equally responsible for all these things. (*Interruptions*)

If you deserve to receive applauses, you also deserve to receive unpleasantries. I want to say that it is a case of a spoiled child. The child was brought up all right, but when he grew up, he was allowed to take to bad habits. To set right these hibits, I want to appoint a House committee which could go into the question as to what is his actual cost of production and how much he gets in return. The committee so constituted shall include an expert also who would examine the whole gamut.

AN HON. MEMBER: When will this committee be constituted?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Now that I have said it there is no question of any delay. I am going to do it very soon. It will be a new beginning. We shall give them what is rightfully due to them.

[E*nglish*]

This is what my idea is and I am going to implement it.

[*Translation*]

In order to improve the habits of the spoiled son he will have to be admitted to a school and if needed, beaten with a stick.

Shri Lodha is not present here, Uma Bharati is of course sitting here. She had given some figures relating to animal husbandry. I want to touch upon the present position with regard to animal husbandry, especially cow rearing and bullock rearing.

AN HON. MEMBER: Say something about Makhana.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Yes, I will tell about Makhana also. It will be our endeavour to export it. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: What about cultivation of betel?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I shall think about betel. I do not have knowledge of it. I shall try to have first hand knowledge first and then I shall send my experts and provide whatever assistance is possible. I want to say that as compared to the animal slaughter rate of 35-40 per cent in other countries, the corresponding percentage of animal slaughter in our country is just 1.5. I am a non-violent person. I do not eat meat nor I take liquor. I do not want animal slaughter. We shall not allow extinction of Nagauri, Haryanavi and other fine breeds of bullocks which cost around 10 thousand rupees and I have been emphasizing the need for it in the States as well. We have banned slaughter of cow and its pregeny in the country barring two States. We shall have to think as to how we can project our fine breeds of cattle.

18.00 hrs.

We want to do cross-breeding, but at the same time we want to protect the pure breeds also. The production of milk has increased but even then there is shortage. We will have to produce more milk. I have felt that we have become selfish. Umaji, was just now saying that we used to contribute 60% earlier but now it is only 30%. Why is it so? It is because we have swallowed the entire thing. We will have to think in this direction. I had said that day also and I would like to repeat again that the entire House should think about environment and family planning. Our future is in danger and serious thought should be given to it.

[*English*]

This is all irrespective of any party affiliations and irrespective of any ideology. If you want to hand over India to the new generation, then you should brighten it up. We must think about this. We must say that we belong to this nation. This nation is ours. That is what I say.

[*Translation*]

One of my friends said what happened to the machines? I would like to say that I have nothing to hide from you. A person who is dishonest has qualms. I do not want to see that day when I would be charged of dishonesty and the charge is proved. I would like that I should be hanged to death on that day. There are many things which we get as gifts or in donation . All those have things rotten. I had got those machines for the farmers but these just disappeared. I had asked them to make full use of it and this is about one and a half years back. Shri Dandavate had also told to use them to the best possible and keep them safe also. I have already washed by hands of it. I am not at all concerned with it. Six States were asked to do it. Shri Hegde, Shri Bommai and other Governments continuously repeat it for the last three years but in vain. I had merely recommended the case. I have nothing to do with it. I had worked in the interest of farmers and the country.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a point of order. The speech was no doubt impressive but it is already two minutes past Six O'Clock. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I up hold your point of order. I think, we need some more time and we will sit in the House until the business is deposed of.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: How can you encourage the production of fodder? Why did you opt for fodder machines?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is what I say. I should have been put to proper use. It should not have been wasted like this without any rhyme or reason. It is just a political vendetta.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: It is a very expensive technique.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am not speaking about fodder machines alone. This system can be provided to every poor man in the villages. It would benefit them tremendously...(*Interruptions*)...I have not come to sugar so far...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

I have got a point regarding sugar, in my mind. I have got a point regarding Sugar Complex in my mind. I want to convert this country into a country which can export something. I have seen five thousand plants.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Even then, it is a very expensive technique.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: No, It is not. It will be a Complex in which everything will be generated, everything will be produced from by-products. Nothing will be left. It will be generating its own energy. It will be generating its own resources. it will be generating its own naptha. It will be generating so many acids and so many others things. I have seen such things working.

[*Translation*]

Umaji was demanding mechanisation.

[*English*]

Where will we go? How can we feed our people? I want to keep both the things open, according to their requirements. I am not against it.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI(Khajuraho): I am being misquoted. I have not said this (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am not going to make this country dependent on somebody again. I do not want to go back to the Seventh Century. I am looking forward for the 21st Century, with my head high, with a bright shine in my eyes. I want to do something.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I clearly remember word by word what I have said. There are a large number of people in the country who cannot afford machines, therefore we should protect cows. I have not said that we should not depend on machines.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The question is.

[English]

Where are we going?

We have never talked about anything on any other subject under the sun. Where are we going? Why are we singling out only the farmers? I am the first man to put my thumb on them; and I did it; and I know that it should be done. Now, what are we doing? Let us have cooperative farming; let us have joint farming; let us provide those farmers with small machines or other machines with our help, as my friend from the South has said. We have to do it. (*Interruptions*) You don't realise it. There is no other escape if you want him to produce more. I have to provide him with all the wherewithal. Where from will he get all these things? Some Hon. Member has said that the farmer is not using fertilizers in that way. He cannot use it in that way because he cannot afford it. We have to help him so that he is able to use fertilizers in that way. I want to make him self-independent. That is what we want to say.

18.06 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE - *in the Chair*]

Now I am going to announce the Minimum Support Prices. Some Hon. Member has asked me what are the things taken into

[Sh. Bal Ram Jakhar]

consideration for a pricing policy. The following things are taken into consideration.

Value of hired human labour

Value of owned bullock labour

Value of hired bullock labour

Hired machinery charges

Value of owned machine labour

Value of seed (both farm produced and purchased)

Value of insecticides and pesticides

Value of farm yard manure (owned and purchased)

Value fo chemical fertilizers

Depreciation on implements and farm buildings Irrigation charges

Land revenue, cesses and other taxes

Interest on working capital

Miscellaneous expenses (payment to artisans etc.)

Rent paid for leased-in land

Interest on value of owned capital assets

(excluding land)

Imputed rental value of owned land

(net of land revenue paid thereon)

Imputed value of family labour.

Management plus whatever is the highest that is the labour cost is to be taken into consideration; the price announced by the Labour Department or the highest one will be applicable.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Is it the highest one or the minimum?

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The question of not providing minimum wages does not arise.

[*English*]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: One is computing it at the minimum wages; where the actual wages are above the minimum wages, then the actual wages. So, I want to be very clear about it. Will the minimum wages be taken into computation? And if the actual wages are above the minimum wages, then the actual wages. Is that correct?

AN HON. MEMBER: That is the point he is making.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Unless he says by mouth, it would not be recorded. If he says, yes, then it would be recorded.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: It is already on the record. I had read out the whole paragraph that day.

This is regarding the Minimum Support Prices. The Government have fixed the Minimum Support Prices for Kharif Cereals, Coarse Cereals, Pulses, Oilseeds and Cotton for the 1991-92 season. These levels of support price have been fixed after considering the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, including the revised recommendations submitted after the Government announced an increase in fertilizer prices by 40 per cent. The Government have also kept in view, scaled down increase in prices of fertilizers by 30 per cent w.e.f. 25.7.1991.

The minimum support price for paddy of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) has been fixed at Rs. 230 per quintal for the 1991-92 season marking an increase of Rs. 25 per quintal over the price of Rs. 205 per quintal for 1990-91. The support prices for Fine and Superfine varieties are Rs. 240 and 250 against the prices of Rs. 215 and Rs. 225 for the preceding year.

The minimum support prices for Kharif Coarse Cereals viz. Jowar, Bajra and Ragi of FAQ have been increased by Rs.25 per quintal from Rs.180 per quintal for 1990-91 season to Rs. 205 per quintal for the 1991-92 season. An increase of RS. 30 per quintal from Rs.180 for 1990-91 to Rs.210 per quintal for 1991-92 has been allowed for Maize. Maize has been allowed more.

The support prices for Kharif Pulses Viz. Arhar(Tur), Moong and Urad of FAQ will be Rs. 545 per quintal for the 1991-92 season showing an increase of Rs. 65 over the price fixed for the preceding season.

The price for Groundnut-in-shell of Free Average Quality marks an increase of Rs. 65 per quintal to Rs. 645 from the price of Rs. 580 per quintal for the 1990-91 season.

For Soyabean Yellow and Soyabean Black varieties to support prices are Rs. 445 per quintal and Rs. 395 per quintal respectively as compared to Rs. 400 and Rs. 350 for the preceding year.

The minimum support price for Sunflower seed for 1991-92 is Rs.670 per quintal showing an increase of Rs.70 over that for the previous season.

The Minimum Support prices fixed for the basic varieties of Cotton viz. F-414/H-777 and H-4 varieties are Rs.695 and Rs.840 per quintal respectively and show increases in prices over those for 1990-91 by Rs. 75 and Rs. 90 quintal respectively.

I hope the enhanced remunerative support prices for 1991-92 season which, well compensate the farmers for the rise in fertilizer prices and other input costs, will ensure fair returns to the farmers for their produce. This should provide the farmer adequate incentive and a firm base to plan for greater investment in agriculture.

SHIR BASU DEB ACHARIA: You have not announced the support price for jute. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is a separate department. It is not my subject. That will come later.

SHRI MASUDAL HOSSAIN SYED: Already, you have fixed the support price for cotton. What about jute? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Jute is not my subject. I will tell you later. (Interru*ptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You gave an assurance in this House that the support price would be revised.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Please listen to me. The jute prices have already been enhanced, that was before the announcement of this price rise. So, I will have them revised. That is what I said. I will do it.

All right, thank you all very much.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: You have not said anything about cooperatives also.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I will tell you.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Regarding subsidy to the small and marginal farmers nothing has been said.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: One after another please. Please take your seats. I will allow you one after the other.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Regarding the subsidy to the small and marginal farmers in West Bengal, I want a clarification. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in all the Legislative Assemblies reply is sent for concerned token cut motions. Would the Hon. Minister reply to it?...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: If you want, I can repeat it. Everything is there in it...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: In the State of West Bengal for payment of subsidy to the marginal and small farmers, for fertilizers, the minimum amount required is Rs.54 crores. But only Rs.30 crores has been sanctioned by the State of West Bengal.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is not the question at this juncture.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Who will reply?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Afterwards, I will tell you. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Unless this Rs.54 crores is sanctioned, the subsidy cannot bed paid.

SHIR BALRAM JAKHAR: You listen to me. I will tell you later.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You will have to reply. How can the subsidy be paid?

I want to know as to how the subsidy can be given to all the farmers. Also how all the small and marginal farmers can be ensured?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has already replied to this.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, the Minister has not specifically requested the Members, who moved their cut motions, to withdraw...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I have already requested them to withdraw their cut motions in my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put all the cut motions moved to the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Agriculture to vote together, unless any Hon. Member desires that any of his cut motions may be put separately.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Agriculture to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1992, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 4 relating to Ministry of Agriculture."

The motion was adopted

STATEMENT

Demands for Grants in respect of Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1991-92 voted by Lok Sabha

No. of	*Name of Demand*	*Account of demand for Grant on Account voted by the House on 29th July, 1991*		*Amount of Demand Grant for voted by the House*	
		Revenue	*Capital*	*Revenue*	*Capital*
		Rs.	*Rs.*	*Rs.*	*Rs.*
	Ministry of Agriculture				
1.	Agriculture	1731,23,00,000	2,24,00,000	406,43,00,000	9,56,00,000
2.	Other Services of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	47,47,00,000	60,06,00,000	90,65,00,000	111,90,00,00
3.	Department of Agricultural Research and Education	182,00,000	...	182,00,000	...
4.	Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	102,62,00,000	24,45,00,000	119,47,00,000	29,03,00,000

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put all the cut motions moved to the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Food to vote together, unless any hon. Member desires that any of his cut motions may be put separately.

All the cut motions were put and negatived

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Food to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1992, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 38 relating to Ministry of Food."

The motion was adopted